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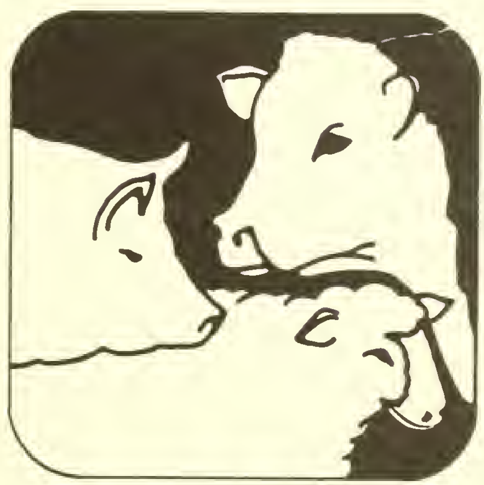
LIVESTOCK AND MEAT Situation



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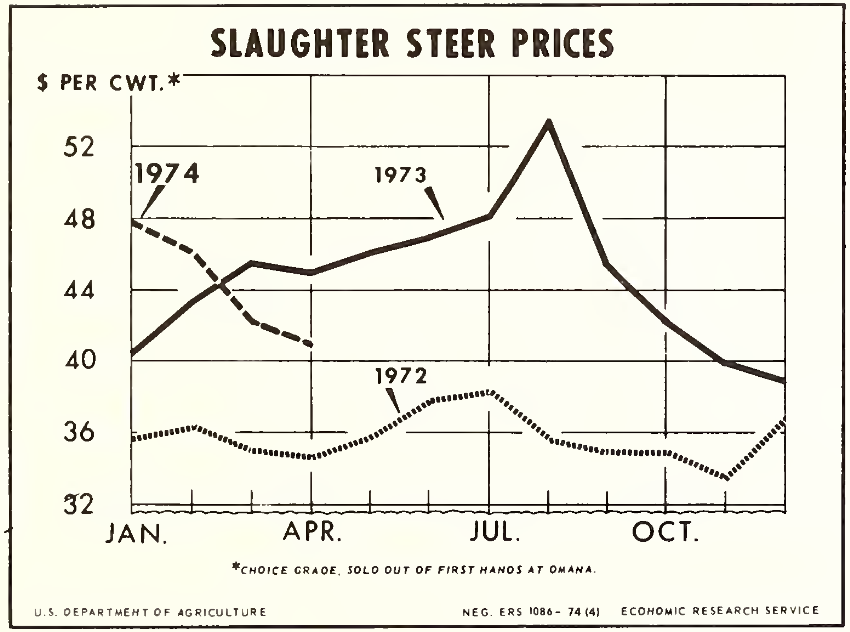
SLAUGHTER STEER PRICES
$ PER CWT.*
52
48
44
40
36
32
1974
1973
1972
JAN.
APR.
JUL.
OCT.
*CHOICE GRADE, SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS AT OMAHA.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 1086 - 74 (4)
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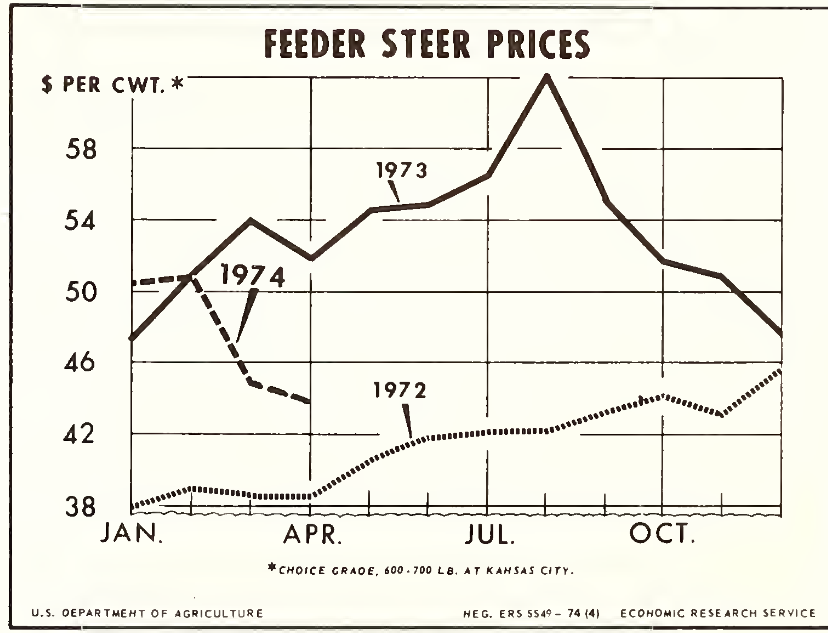
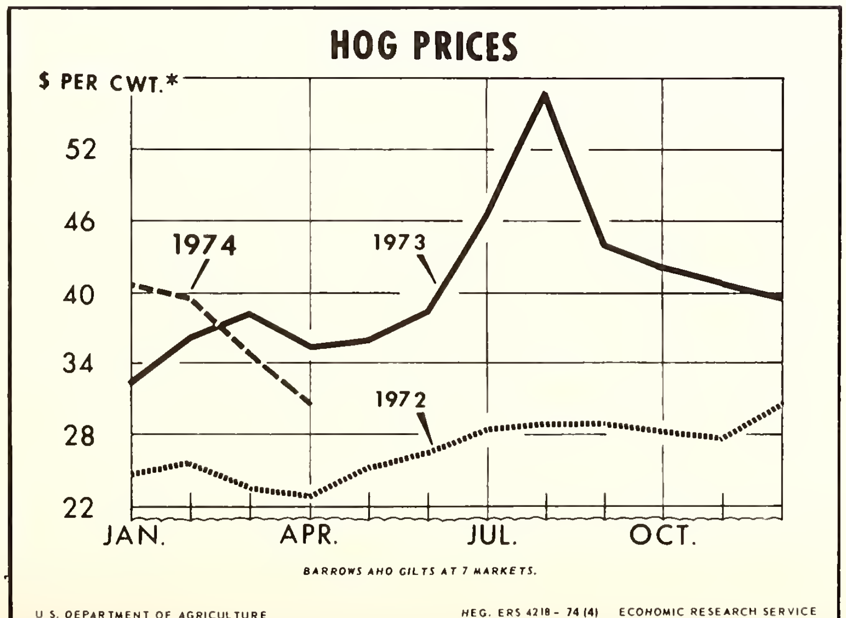

FEEDER STEER PRICES
$ PER CWT.*
58
54
50
46
42
38
1973
1974
1972
JAN.
APR.
JUL.
OCT.
*CHOICE GRADE, 600-700 LB. AT KANSAS CITY.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 5540 - 74 (4)
ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE


HOG PRICES
$ PER CWT.*
52
46
40
34
28
22
1974
1973
1972
JAN.
APR.
JUL.
OCT.
BARROWS AND GILTS AT 7 MARKETS.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 4218 - 74 (4)
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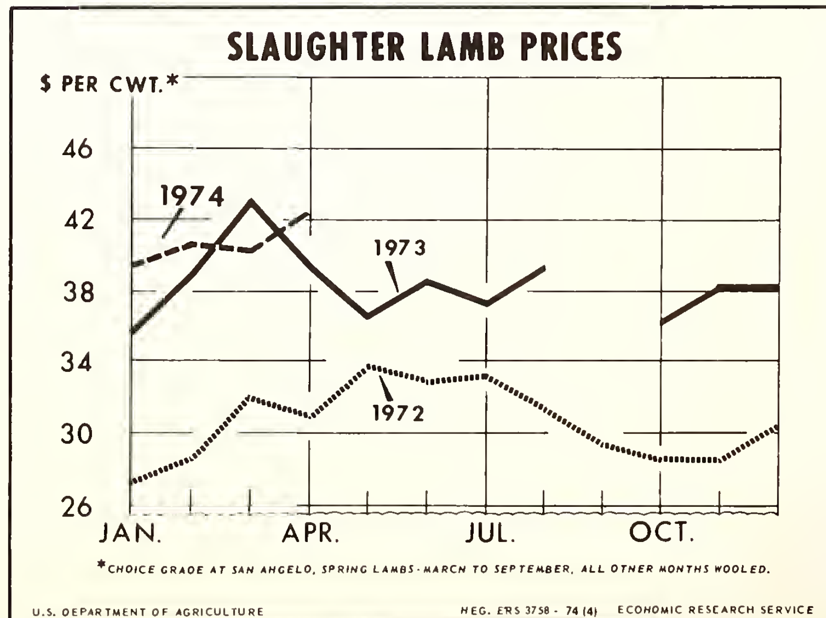
SLAUGHTER LAMB PRICES
$ PER CWT.*
46
42
38
34
30
26
1974
1973
1972
JAN.
APR.
JUL.
OCT.
*CHOICE GRADE AT SAN ANGELO, SPRING LAMBS-MARCH TO SEPTEMBER, ALL OTHER MONTHS WOOLED.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 3758 - 74 (4)
ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

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Approved by
The Outlook and Situation Board
and Summary released
April 30, 1974

Written by

John T. Larsen
George Hoffman

Commodity Economic Division

Economic Research Service

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250

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The *Livestock and Meat Situation* is published in February, March, May, August, October, and November.

SUMMARY

Livestock prices are expected to rise later this spring into early summer as meat production declines from the winter level. Retail meat prices will probably rise into summer, but should generally decline for the rest of 1974 as meat supplies increase and inflationary pressures subside. January-March retail beef and pork prices were probably at their highs for the year.

Per capita meat consumption this year is expected to rise from 1973's 176 pounds but will not reach the 189 pounds of 1972. Consumption during January-March was nearly the same as a year ago. Beef, veal, and lamb consumption ran about the same as January-March 1973 and pork consumption rose nearly 1 pound per person.

Cattle prices have stabilized in the low $40's per 100 pounds after declining sharply from the January highs. Market disruptions due to precautions taken before, and in response to, the truck strike in February were largely responsible for the erratic price behavior early this year.

The deteriorating cattle market in February and March forced many cattle feeders into financial loss positions which discouraged orderly marketings of cattle for slaughter. Overfinished cattle have had a major price depressing effect in the past several weeks on both the live and retail markets.

Cattle slaughter this spring likely will decline some from the winter level, and prices are expected to rise to the mid $40's by early summer. Then later in the summer and fall, more cattle will be coming to slaughter and cattle and beef prices will again decline. Much of the increase in slaughter will continue to be in cows and nonfed steers and heifers. Prospective larger imports of beef in the second half will also contribute to larger supplies.

If the fed cattle market rises this spring and summer as expected, and cattle feeders' losses are reduced, they will probably tend to bid up somewhat the market for cattle going into feedlots. Prices of these feeder cattle will decline seasonally later in the year and perhaps average in the low $40's for the second half.

Hog prices early this year fell sharply, but are expected to strengthen this spring and summer as

supplies trend seasonally lower. Summer peak prices could reach the high $30's.

As of March 1 hog producers were sticking close to their earlier production plans for 1974. Farrowing intentions for March-May indicated no changes were planned. June-August farrowing intentions were down 2 percent.

Sheep and lamb slaughter is continuing lower this year. Lamb prices have risen this spring but are expected to be seasonally lower this summer and fall.

SITUATION AND OUTLOOK

Commercial Meat Production

	1973				1974			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II[1]	III[1]	IV
Beef (Mil. lbs.)	5,394	5,041	4,992	5,649	5,429	(5,250)	(5,440)	
Percent change from year earlier	0	-9	-10	-1	+1	+4	+9	
Previous quarter	-6	-6	-1	+13	-4	-3	+4	
Pork (Mil. lbs.)	3,261	3,178	2,792	3,349	3,370	(3,240)	(2,875)	
Percent change from year earlier	-7	-6	-9	-5	+3	+2	+3	
Previous quarter	-7	-3	-12	+20	+1	-4	-11	
Lamb and Mutton (Mil. lbs.)	125	126	128	123	120	(118)	(120)	
Percent change from year earlier	-12	-3	+3	-10	-4	-6	-6	
Previous quarter	-9	+1	+2	-4	-2	-2	+2	

[1] Forecast.

Livestock Prices

	1973				1974			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II[1]	III[1]	IV
	Dollars per 100 pounds	*Dollars per 100 pounds*	*Dollars per 100 pounds*	*Dollars per 100 pounds*	*Dollars per 100 pounds*	*Dollars per 100 pounds*	*Dollars per 100 pounds*	*Dollars per 100 pounds*
Choice steers, Omaha	43.17	46.00	49.04	40.20	45.40	43-45	43-45	
Barrows and gilts, 7 markets	35.62	36.67	49.04	40.96	38.40	32-34	35-37	
Slaughter lambs, 5 markets	38.25	36.00	36.63	35.00	39.66	39-41	38-40	

[1] Forecast.

MEAT SITUATION AND PRICES

Disruptive factors influencing the meat trade during most of 1973 were still present in early 1974. Wholesale meat prices advanced sharply from late December to mid-January partly as a result of strong demand by retailers and wholesalers attempting to build stocks against the possibility of an extended truck strike scheduled to begin in early February. Commercial red meat production in January was up 12 percent from December and was 2 percent larger than a year earlier. Beef production in January was the largest on record for that month. Beef cold storage stocks at the end of the month were also record large. Beef stocks increased again in March, and on April 1 were up to 476 million pounds. This compares with 359 million pounds on April 1, 1973.

Despite the high level of production, slaughter animal prices and wholesale meat prices advanced, and retail prices quickly followed suit. The truck strike was resolved in a week. After falling sharply lower for the week of the strike, weekly livestock slaughter rates quickly returned to near or above year-earlier levels. But retail prices continued to rise into February as retailers rapidly passed their higher input costs on to consumers.

In February and March slaughter animal and wholesale prices dropped sharply. Severe downward pressure developed on wholesale and live animal prices as consumer resistance to substantially higher retail prices for larger supplies of meat began to be passed back through the market system. Retail prices followed the downturn but at a slower pace.

With the falling livestock prices in the winter, much speculation has centered over a possible weakening demand for meat. However, declining retail prices and depressed live animal prices do not necessarily indicate a general weakness in consumer demand. In the present situation it apparently reflects a refusal by consumers to accept the large volume produced during early 1974 at the substantially higher retail prices asked.

Smaller consumption of meat in 1973 has also been cited as reflecting weak demand. However, per capita consumption alone is not a relevant measure of demand in the short term, since consumption is closely related to the supply available. The decline in per capita meat consumption last year was due almost entirely to lower domestic output. Meat exports were up but net imports were about unchanged. But with smaller consumption, total expenditures for beef and pork increased, reflecting the consumer's willingness to pay higher prices for meat. To arrive at consumer demand, consumption must be related to the prices paid.

Table 1 shows how estimated beef and pork expenditures per person have been increasing on a quarterly basis since 1971 and on an annual basis since 1960. The table also illustrates the estimated percentages of incomes spent for beef and pork products.

Beef Expenditures

From 1971 to the first quarter this year, beef expenditures per person have exceeded the previous quarter with only 3 exceptions. Two of the exceptions were in the fourth quarters of 1971 and of 1972. But a drop in fourth quarter expenditures has been apparent in 16 out of the past 19 years. Competition

Table 1.—Expenditures per person for beef and pork

Year/quarter	Per capita disposable income	Beef expenditures per person[1] [2]	Percent of income for beef	Pork expenditures per person[1]	Percent of income for pork
	Dollars	*Dollars*	*Percent*	*Dollars*	*Percent*
1960	1,937.0	50.51	2.61	33.74	1.74
1965	2,436.0	58.98	2.42	35.92	1.47
1970	3,376.0	82.96	2.46	48.17	1.43
1971					
I	881.5	20.54	2.33	11.78	1.34
II	899.5	21.79	2.42	11.39	1.27
III	907.0	22.85	2.52	11.94	1.32
IV	914.5	22.01	2.41	12.64	1.38
Year	3,603.0	87.13	2.42	47.73	1.32
1972					
I	927.8	23.79	2.56	13.00	1.40
II	941.3	24.02	2.55	12.41	1.32
III	957.8	25.00	2.61	12.65	1.32
IV	988.8	24.88	2.52	14.03	1.42
Year	3,816.0	97.69	2.56	52.15	1.37
1973					
I	1,014.3	26.67	2.63	14.60	1.44
II	1,034.3	26.33	2.55	14.77	1.43
III	1,057.8	28.12	2.66	15.86	1.50
IV	1,087.3	28.59	2.63	17.49	1.61
Year	4,187.0	109.80	2.62	62.90	1.50
1974					
I[3]	1,102.8	30.02	2.72	17.97	1.63

[1] Estimated from retail weight of consumption times average retail price. Conversion factors of 0.74 for beef and 0.93 for pork were used to adjust carcass weight consumption to retail weight consumption. [2] Based on the average retail price of choice grade beef and does not attempt to account for prices of other grades or the value of away-from-home consumption. [3] Preliminary.

from turkey and pork products during the holiday season is largely responsible for the decline. Unusually high prices of these meats relative to beef prices were probably responsible for keeping the beef expenditures up in the fourth quarter of 1973. The third exception occurred during the second quarter of 1973, probably due to the consumer boycott last April. Expenditures for beef in the first quarter of 1974 again were larger in both constant and current dollars.

Pork Expenditures

Consumer outlays for pork are somewhat more erratic than for beef since pork prices are more susceptible to changes in the price of other meats. Also, pork production and prices have a more pronounced seasonality. Even so, pork expenditures have paralleled the advance in beef expenditures since 1971. There were only 2 exceptions in quarter to quarter advances. They were in the second quarters of 1971 and 1972 and were largely seasonal changes. The consumer meat boycott last spring evidently had less of a dampening effect on spending for pork than it did for beef. A big jump in expenditures for pork was apparent last summer as consumers substituted pork for limited beef supplies. This higher level of spending carried through to the fall of 1973, but slowed in January-March 1974. The first quarter slowdown may be an adjustment to the preceding large increases last summer and fall.

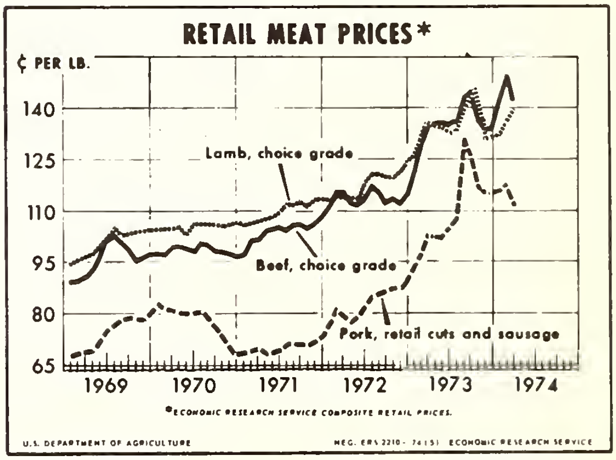
Beef and pork expenditures per person were record large in January-March 1974. Pork expenditures in early 1974 were only up a little from last fall but still far above a year ago. Also, consumers have been spending a larger than normal proportion of their incomes on beef and pork since the summer of 1973 when meat supplies dropped and prices began to soar. This suggests that the demand for beef and pork products continued strong into the first quarter of 1974.

However, consumers will try to resist spending continuing larger shares of their incomes for meat products. Downward adjustments in the percentages of incomes spent for meat products, toward more normal trends, can be expected in the next few months. This is already indicated this spring by the sharply lower retail price trends, and the lower prices for cattle and hogs while beef and pork supplies are expected to be down from winter. Expenditures for pork products during January-March 1974 were only up slightly from the fall of 1973. Expenditures for both beef and pork products in the second quarter this year will likely be lower. Once these short run adjustments take place, meat expenditures will probably again resume their normal upward movement later in 1974 and 1975 at nearly the same rate that consumer incomes increase.

Meat Consumption Unchanged

Per capita red meat consumption during January-March was nearly the same as a year ago and last fall. Beef, veal and lamb consumption was near January-March 1973, while pork consumption was up nearly a pound.

The unusual demand situation early this year boosted wholesale prices in January. They peaked in February, then trailed off in March. Steer carcasses at Chicago (600-700 pounds) fluctuated from $69 per 100 pounds in late December to $86 in early February before dropping back to $65 in April. Pork loins showed a similar change since last fall, rising from $72 in November to $80 in January and then in early April dropping to $65 per 100 pounds at Chicago. Early April loin prices were the lowest since May 1973.



Retail prices almost paralleled rises in the wholesale market. The composite price for choice beef products rose from $1.34 per pound in December to $1.50 in February—a 12 percent rise in two months. By early March, retail beef prices had begun to drop under pressure of increasing supplies, and increased specialing at the retail counter became necessary to move out existing supplies of beef. March prices fell 5 percent from February. A further decline is likely in April but beef prices will strengthen into the summer as beef production declines from the higher winter rates.

Retail pork prices rose early this year, but modestly compared with beef. Pork prices dropped to $1.15 last November, then regained some strength to top $1.17 in February. March pork prices were back down to $1.12, the lowest since last July. Some further declines in retail pork prices are likely in April but an upward trend can be expected later as pork supplies trend seasonally lower through the summer.

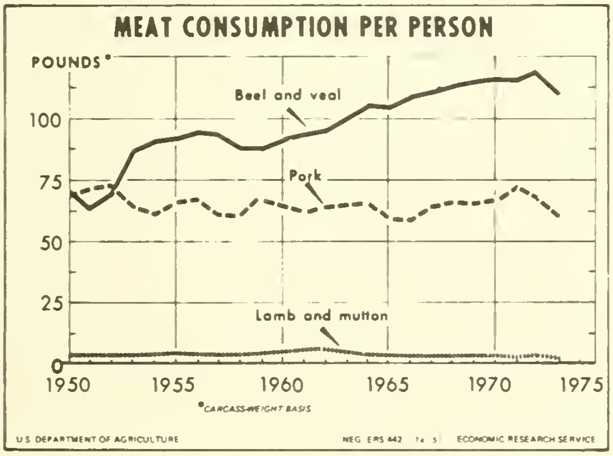
Total red meat consumption per capita for 1974 will likely be above 1973 but not up to the 189 pounds of

Table 2.—Average retail price of meat per pound, United States, by months, 1968 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av.
						Beef, Choice grade							
1968	84.3	85.1	85.6	85.6	85.8	85.8	87.1	87.0	88.4	87.7	88.1	88.5	86.6
1969	89.5	89.6	90.9	93.3	97.8	101.9	102.4	101.1	99.1	95.2	96.5	96.9	96.2
1970	97.5	97.3	99.4	99.9	99.4	98.5	100.7	100.4	98.7	97.9	97.6	96.5	98.6
1971	97.2	101.3	102.2	104.0	104.8	105.7	104.7	105.7	105.9	105.1	106.3	108.5	104.3
1972	111.5	115.8	115.8	112.0	111.4	113.5	117.3	115.8	112.9	112.8	112.3	114.6	113.8
1973	122.1	130.3	135.3	136.0	136.0	135.5	136.3	144.2	144.9	136.0	134.9	134.4	135.5
1974	143.0	150.0	142.2										
						Veal, retail cuts							
1968	99.8	99.2	100.0	102.0	100.0	102.5	101.7	101.4	101.9	101.1	101.9	100.9	101.0
1969	102.5	103.7	104.6	107.5	108.6	112.5	114.0	115.0	115.1	115.2	114.6	116.3	110.8
1970	117.2	119.3	120.8	123.3	123.9	124.9	125.7	126.6	127.0	127.4	127.6	127.9	124.3
1971	128.9	129.4	130.6	132.9	133.7	134.8	138.5	139.3	139.6	140.3	140.6	140.9	135.8
1972	142.8	148.6	149.7	151.0	151.8	154.3	156.5	157.4	157.7	158.5	159.5	160.1	154.0
1973[1]	162.2	169.1	176.9	180.5	181.1	181.3	183.2	188.7	188.5	190.6	186.2	191.6	181.7
1974	194.5	198.6	199.6										
						Pork							
1968	65.4	66.7	67.1	66.3	66.7	67.8	69.4	69.0	68.8	67.8	67.1	67.0	67.4
1969	67.9	68.6	69.0	69.1	71.6	75.0	76.9	78.3	78.9	78.7	78.1	79.7	74.3
1970	82.1	81.8	81.4	79.9	80.0	80.0	80.6	79.7	76.7	74.6	70.8	68.4	78.0
1971	68.4	69.4	69.9	68.7	68.2	69.6	71.4	71.6	71.0	71.3	71.4	72.9	70.3
1972	76.3	81.3	79.4	78.2	79.4	82.0	85.6	86.0	86.6	87.5	87.2	88.5	83.2
1973	94.1	97.1	103.0	102.7	102.4	104.1	107.5	131.5	126.3	117.1	115.4	115.8	109.8
1974	116.7	117.2	111.8										
						Lamb, Choice grade							
1968	89.8	90.4	92.0	92.5	93.3	93.7	94.5	93.6	93.1	94.5	94.2	93.5	92.9
1969	94.5	95.9	96.4	97.1	100.1	101.8	104.4	102.9	103.4	103.9	103.7	104.8	100.7
1970	104.8	104.8	104.7	105.6	103.9	105.7	106.0	106.3	106.3	105.9	105.9	106.4	105.5
1971	105.9	106.5	107.0	107.4	108.0	109.6	111.4	111.5	112.6	112.7	112.7	113.0	110.9
1972	113.0	115.1	115.2	115.6	115.2	118.4	120.6	120.7	120.1	120.5	121.4	124.3	118.3
1973[1]	125.6	130.2	136.1	135.5	134.2	132.2	133.4	140.4	145.4	135.2	131.3	131.7	134.3
1974	132.6	136.9	139.3										

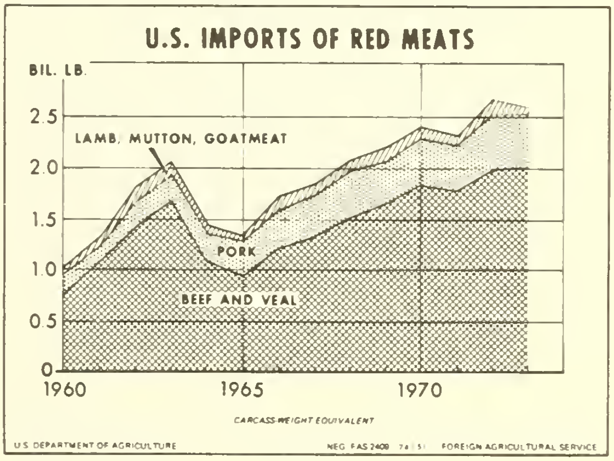
[1] Revised.

1972. Beef consumption will be up moderately as domestic production rises about 3-5 percent and imports are significantly larger. Pork consumption is expected to be up a little from last year. Retail beef and pork prices during January-March are unlikely to be matched during the remainder of 1974. Generally lower-trending retail prices can be expected after some price recovery later this spring and early summer.



Foreign Trade

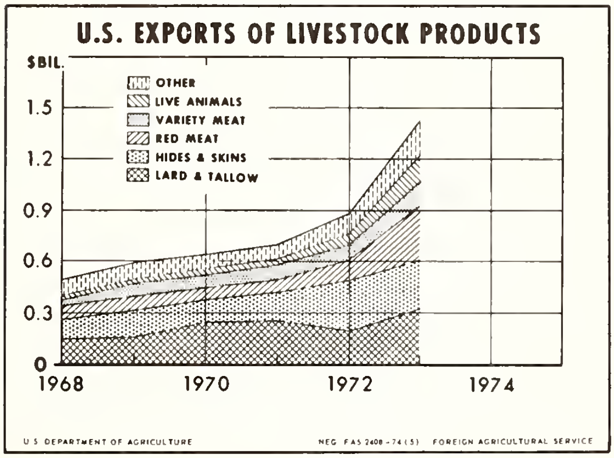
January-March meat imports (carcass weight equivalent) this year were up from a year ago.



Total beef and veal imports were up 6 percent although imports from Australia, the most important supplier, were up 16 percent. Pork imports were up 18 percent with most of the increase coming from Poland and Canada.

Meat exports (carcass weight equivalent) during January-March were down 44 percent with all of the decline in pork. Beef and veal exports were up 44 percent with nearly all of the increase going to Japan.

The Secretary of Agriculture announced on April 1, after a review of the situation, that the meat import quota on fresh, chilled and frozen beef, veal, mutton, and goat meat will remain suspended for 1974. Another review of the situation will be made later this spring.

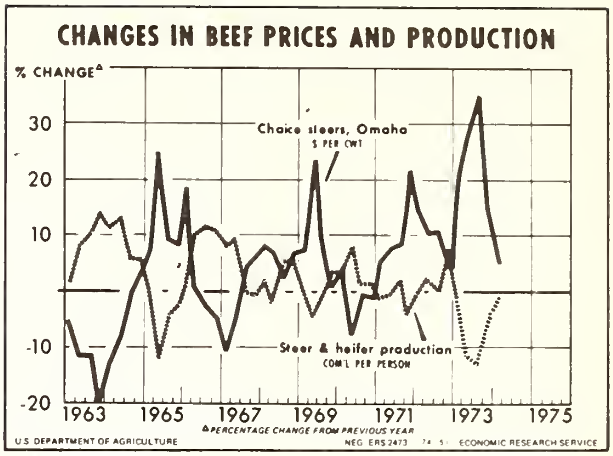


USDA Purchases Beef

In purchases late last fall and early this winter the USDA paid $43.4 million for 45.4 million pounds of frozen ground beef for use in school lunch programs. In late March this year, another purchase program was announced for frozen ground beef of purchases of up to $45 million in conjunction with other efforts to help improve prices to cattle feeders and producers. The recent program was implemented to prevent future dislocations in the supply of high quality beef by the removal of some of the Choice and Prime beef from normal marketing channels. Ground beef purchases under previous programs in recent years have been of Utility grade or better beef and included mostly cow beef. The first purchase of beef under the new purchase program was made on April 11. Purchases through April 25 totaled 3.5 million pounds at a cost of $3.6 million, f.o.b. vendors shipping point.

CATTLE

The cattle industry in early 1974 saw a welcomed sharp price rise and signs of an end to the market



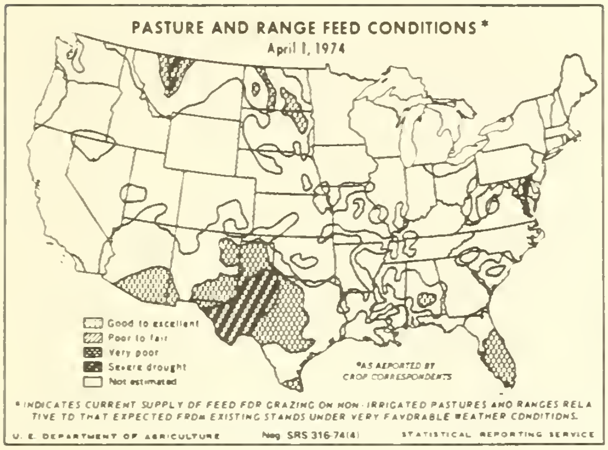
disruptions that plagued the livestock sector during most of 1973. Cattle prices during January rose to over $48 from the December lows of $37 per 100 pounds. Financial losses that were common in the fall were significantly eased. By mid-February, however, it became apparent that most optimism was premature. Cattle prices dropped back near $40 in March, and losses to cattle feeders rose significantly.

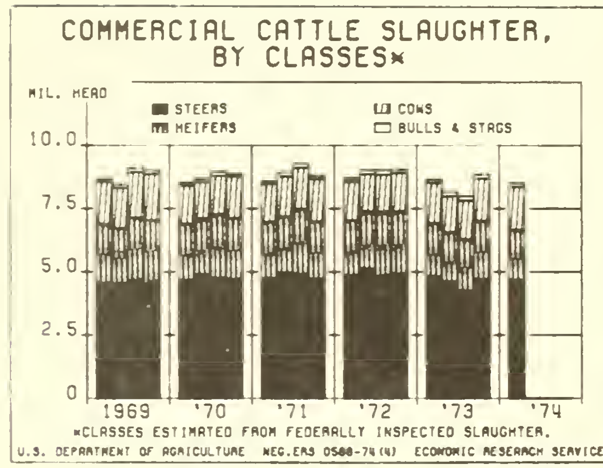
Choice steer prices per 100 pounds, Omaha

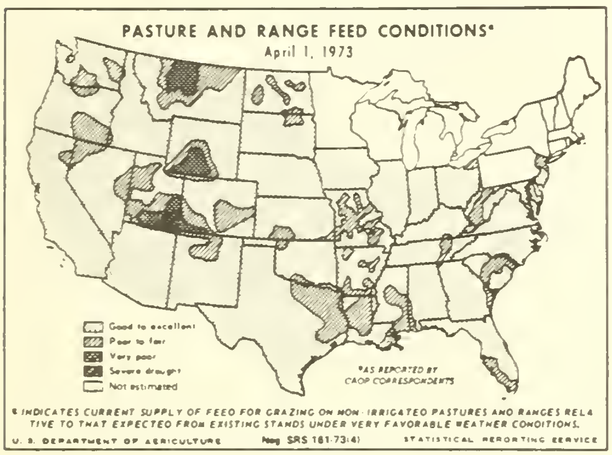
Month	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
	Dol.	*Dol.*	*Dol.*	*Dol.*	*Dol.*
January	28.23	29.11	35.74	40.62	47.68
February	29.30	32.23	36.19	43.35	46.12
March	30.97	31.81	35.13	45.55	42.36
April	30.64	32.44	34.53	44.97	41.18
May	29.52	32.88	35.66	46.05	
June	30.29	32.39	37.88	46.98	
July	31.12	32.44	38.21	48.05	
August	30.14	33.24	35.66	53.61	
September ...	29.32	32.62	34.85	45.45	
October	28.67	32.34	34.85	41.79	
November ...	27.21	33.58	33.56	39.88	
December ...	26.71	34.40	36.79	38.90	
Average	29.34	32.42	35.83	43.89	

Fed cattle prices are expected to strengthen into early summer as slaughter slips below winter levels. Continued lagging of fed cattle marketings and the seasonally lower cow slaughter will pull total beef production down this spring from the winter level. But larger beef supplies are likely in the summer and fall with prices trending lower.

Substantial market adjustments will be necessary to enable the cattle feeding industry to obtain profits in 1974. Such adjustments have been slow in coming but appear to be on the way. Feed grain prices are expected to generally decline in the second half of the year based on prospects for an abundant feed crop







this year. Also, feeder cattle prices, which have been slow to adjust downward, are now much lower than last year, and are expected to continue low through the balance of 1974. However, the effect of any significant adjustment will not be apparent until after mid-1974.

The cattle inventory has been expanding rapidly in recent years and the beef cow herd is reaching a point necessitating heavier culling. The large inventory increase in 1973, and the current circumstances of the feeding industry indicate that a rather modest increase in 1974 fed cattle slaughter and a larger increase in cow slaughter will likely be followed by a more substantial rise in 1975. But demand for beef this year will continue strong enough for fed cattle prices to average near 1973 levels. Feeder cattle prices will average below 1973 levels which were the higest on record. High feed costs this year will probably continue to encourage feeders to purchase cattle at heavier weights and feed them for a shorter period of time.

January-March commercial cattle slaughter of 8.5 million head, ran about 2 percent below last year, but a heavier average weight boosted beef production for the quarter to 5429 million pounds up 1 percent from 1973. Steer and heifer slaughter was down about 4 percent but was partly offset by a 6 percent increase in cow slaughter. Fed cattle marketings from the 23 major cattle feeding States during January-March were off by 8 percent, suggesting that a larger proportion of steers and heifers were going to slaughter with limited grain feeding. This non-fed component of steer and heifer slaughter will likely remain larger than last year through 1974 as long as feed costs remain high and financial losses to cattle feeders continue. There has been a low level of placements since early 1973 even though the 1973 calf crop was larger.

Choice fed steers at Omaha averaged $45.40 during January-March, while 600-700 pound Choice feeders at Kansas City averaged near $48.75. The narrowing spread early this year was in contrast to $7-$10 spreads during most of last year. This indicated a resistance by cattle feeders to bid strongly for replacement stock while sustaining losses on their feeding operations. Placements of cattle on feed during January-March in the 23 major cattle feeding States were off 12 percent, despite the large inventory of feeder cattle on January 1.

Fed Cattle Prices to Rise Into Early Summer

There was 8 percent fewer cattle on feed on April 1 in the 23 major cattle feeding States than a year ago. The sharpest decline was in the Corn Belt, which had 9 percent fewer cattle, while those in Western feedlots were down 5 percent.

Cattle feeders expect to market only slightly more cattle during April-June than they did a year ago, although on April 1 they had 8 percent more cattle on feed in weight groups that normally supply the bulk of spring quarter marketings. The increase in the number of heavyweight cattle indicates that recent problems with overfinished cattle are not yet

Current fed cattle prices per 100 pounds, compared with feeder cattle prices 5 months earlier

Year	Fed cattle[1]	Feeder cattle[2]	Margins
	Dollars	*Dollars*	*Dollars*
1972			
January ...	35.63	35.18	+.45
February ..	36.32	34.97	+1.35
March	35.17	35.64	-.47
April	34.52	36.88	-2.36
May	35.70	37.20	-1.50
June	37.91	37.92	-.01
July	38.38	38.86	-.48
August	35.70	38.64	-2.94
September .	34.69	38.54	-3.85
October ...	34.92	40.43	-5.51
November ..	33.59	41.94	-8.35
December ..	36.85	42.02	-5.17
1973			
January ...	40.65	42.07	-1.42
February ..	43.54	43.29	+.25
March	45.65	44.15	+1.50
April	45.03	43.17	+1.86
May	45.74	45.77	-.03
June	46.76	47.33	-.57
July	47.66	50.98	-3.32
August	52.94	54.01	-4.39
September .	45.12	51.82	-6.70
October ...	41.92	54.55	-12.63
November ..	40.14	54.85	-14.71
December ..	39.36	56.49	-17.13
1974			
January ...	47.14	62.40	-15.26
February ..	46.38	55.06	-8.68
March	42.85	51.86	-9.01
April	41.54	51.02	-9.48

[1] Choice steers at Omaha, 900-1,100 pounds. [2] Choice steers at Kansas City, 600-700 pounds, prior to 1972 550-750 lbs.

resolved. Some price increases in the fed cattle market will tend to draw these heavy cattle out of the feedlots, but slow marketings will probably continue through to early summer. The Western States indicated intentions to market 2 percent more cattle this spring, while the Corn Belt States planned to change little. However, while fed beef production this spring may be much the same as a year ago, total beef production will be larger, with the difference made up by increased non-fed cattle and cow slaughter.

Even though cattle slaughter this spring is expected to be above the depressed level of last year, it will likely be down from the winter level. Some strength in consumer demand should lift Choice steers at Omaha back to the mid $40's later this spring. Last spring they averaged $46.

Larger cow slaughter, an increase in imported beef, and more chickens and turkeys will keep cow prices from rising substantially above current levels. Feeder cattle prices may recover some in response to the price rise of the fed market, but selective buying by cattle feeders will keep a lid on feeder cattle prices.

Summer Marketings Up

With fed cattle prices advancing in the spring, placements on feed can again be expected to increase. Placements during the spring quarter will likely be above last spring's low number, but will not approach the record number of placements in 1972. Larger placements and some delay in fed cattle marketings during the spring will push additional fed cattle supplies into the summer and boost summer marketings above the depressed level of a year earlier and probably above spring levels. Cow slaughter during the summer will also continue above a year earlier.

On April 1 there were 15 percent fewer cattle on feed in weight groups that typically supply summer fed cattle marketings. However, due to the low rate of placements last year and early this year, cattle placed on feed this spring and summer will likely be heavier and require a shorter than usual turn in the feedlots. Also, substantially more fed cattle could be marketed this summer from a smaller midyear inventory when compared with the abnormally low rate of slaughter last summer. Fed cattle marketings were delayed last summer and held unusually low as many feeders anticipated a sharp price rise with the removal of beef price controls in September.

As cattle slaughter rises, prices will probably weaken. Most of the overfinished cattle should be marketed by summer, bringing average slaughter weights down somewhat from winter and spring average weights.

There are many uncertainties surrounding the fed cattle market in the months ahead. Cattle prices over the next 6 months will hinge on cattle feeders' decisions to move the current large supply of heavy cattle as well as the number of short fed cattle that reach market weights in the summer. If cattle feeders move heavy cattle at a rapid pace before midyear, price strength will be limited and most market gains will come later. On the other hand, if withholding continues this spring, and marketings of the current heavy inventories are spread over a longer period, then prices will rise more sharply in the near term and less strength will be noted after midyear.

Fall Prices to be Down

In the absence of further major disruptions for the remainder of 1974, beef production this fall could be up significantly and approach the record level of 1972. Strength in the fed cattle market this spring and summer should stimulate placements on feed over the depressed levels of 1973. Also, much of the increase in slaughter this fall will again come from non-fed stock. Choice steer prices may fall to the low $40's, so profits or losses from cattle feeding will depend to a large extent on cautious and selective purchases of feeder cattle during the spring and

summer months when feeder prices are trending upward. Recent crop intentions suggest record feed grain output in 1974 which should move grain prices lower and encourage further placements. This implies a substantial gain in fed cattle marketings for 1975.

Cow Slaughter Up Again

Estimated commercial cow slaughter during 1973 was up 4 percent, and during the first 3 months of 1974, it was up 6 percent. High feed prices and a lower cattle market have been important factors influencing the heavier culling rate. The culling rate likely will slow some this spring as cows go back to pasture and the cattle market strengthens. However, with the downward pressure on feeder cattle prices this year, expansion of the beef cow herd will be smaller than in the last couple of years. Thus, cow slaughter is expected to run large through most of 1974.

Utility cows at Omaha in the first 3 months this year averaged near $32 per 100 pounds. The strong runup in fed cattle prices during January had little effect on cow prices, and weekly averages of $30-$32 have been characteristic since November. Cow prices will remain under pressure for the remainder of this year as slaughter increases along with large projected beef imports.

Utility cow prices per 100 pounds, Omaha

Month	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
	Dollars	*Dollars*	*Dollars*	*Dollars*	*Dollars*
January	20.93	19.98	22.61	26.67	31.45
February	22.18	20.98	23.80	31.43	32.65
March	23.24	22.03	24.73	33.90	31.76
April	23.23	21.48	24.70	33.59	30.49
May	22.64	22.30	25.51	34.26	
June	22.58	22.03	26.00	33.09	
July	20.85	21.68	26.22	34.21	
August	20.48	21.72	26.18	37.56	
September	21.13	21.84	26.57	34.58	
October	20.84	22.30	26.19	33.68	
November	19.04	21.45	24.98	30.71	
December	18.77	21.64	25.02	30.10	
Average	21.32	21.62	25.21	32.82	

Calf Slaughter Lower

Calf slaughter fell a fourth in 1973 and reductions are continuing in 1974. January-March calf slaughter was down by 11 percent. Vealer prices have been fluctuating mostly between $55 and $65 per 100 pounds so far this year with a January-March average of over $63 for Choice 100-250 pounds calves at South St. Paul. Calf slaughter for the remainder of 1974 will probably run mostly below a year earlier with prices near or above last year's Choice vealer price of $64.

Feeder Cattle Situation and Outlook

Given the large increase in the supply of feeder cattle on January 1, and the reduced margins of the feeding industry, downward pressure on feeder cattle prices can be expected this year. Also, a lower feeder market this year means we may see more two-way cattle—those with some grain feeding that can go either into a feedlot or directly to slaughter. While feeder cattle prices will average below last year's record level, sharp declines in the near future appear to be unlikely.

Feeder cattle prices per 100 pounds, Kansas City

Month	Choice feeder steers 600-700 lbs.[1]			Choice feeder steer calves[2]		
	1972	1973	1974	1972	1973	1974
	Dol.	*Dol.*	*Dol.*	*Dol.*	*Dol.*	*Dol.*
Jan.	37.92	47.33	50.58	41.50	51.95	54.66
Feb.	38.86	50.98	50.80	43.94	56.10	54.45
Mar.	38.64	54.01	44.81	44.69	62.72	54.02
Apr.	38.54	51.82	44.15	45.16	60.42	50.30
May	40.43	54.55		46.67	62.59	
June	41.94	54.85		47.32	62.42	
July	42.02	56.49		47.10	64.40	
Aug.	42.07	62.40		48.32	72.52	
Sept.	43.29	55.06		48.70	62.80	
Oct.	44.15	51.86		49.81	59.46	
Nov.	43.17	51.02		48.37	56.42	
Dec.	45.77	47.71		49.90	52.59	
Av.	41.40	53.17		46.79	60.36	

[1] Prior to 1972 550-750 lbs. [2] 400-500 lbs., prior to 1972 300-500 lbs.

The feeder market so far in 1974 has been sluggish at best. Choice 600-700 pound feeders at Kansas City averaged $53 per 100 pounds in 1973. Substantial price increases in the fed market during January had little effect on feeder cattle prices—increasing from $47.70 in December to $50.60 in January. Since January, feeder prices have trended lower and in April they were running only $2-$4 above fed cattle prices at near $44 per 100 pounds.

Possible Alternatives

As with any forecast, possible deviations are numerous. Moving out of an extremely disruptive period last year, comparisons become even more hazardous. On the basis of inventory numbers, there should be a substantial increase in cattle slaughter this year. However, high feed costs and the financial stress the feeding industry has sustained over the past several months are expected to result in only moderate gains in production this year.

The pressure of a large inventory together with extended dry weather conditions could boost slaughter levels higher than the 3-5 percent currently suggested. On the other hand, if more cattle feeders

than anticipated drop out of cattle feeding, slaughter could drop below that range. Higher corn prices later this year, than now seems likely, would have little effect on the balance of 1974's production but could significantly reduce placements of cattle on feed in the second half and therefore lower anticipated production in 1975.

Canada Bans U.S. Beef

On April 9 Canada banned imports of live cattle and sheep plus beef, lamb, and mutton that have not been officially certified free of DES. Breeding animals and shipments already in transit were not affected. Canada has required certification by a full-time U.S. government employee who has periodically visited the feedlots of origin to insure that the cattle or sheep covered by the certificate have never received DES. The United States has maintained that the only way of assuring DES was not used was by owner certification backed by meat inspection activities prior to shipment.

Most cattle moving to Canda are from Corn Belt feedlots where DES is not widely used. Even so, the restriction as specified will put an end to most cattle and beef movement to Canada.

The impact of the ban on the U.S. market will be minimal nationwide although some local cattle markets could be depressed during the adjustment period.

Exports of live cattle to Canada this year had been running far above last year and reached near 10,000 head per week during March. This was about 1.7 percent of the U.S. weekly cattle slaughter of over 600,000 head.

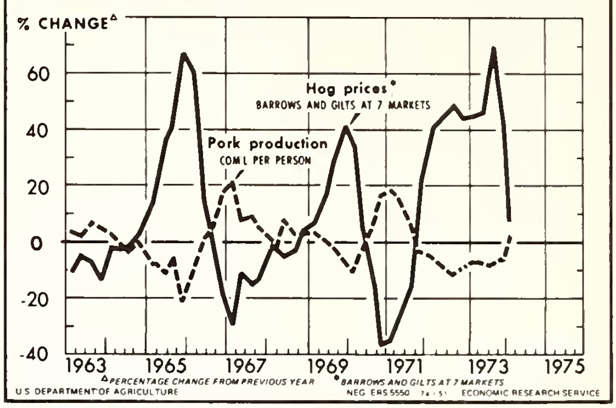
Beef trade will also be affected but not as significantly as cattle. Movement of dressed beef to Canada this year has been running well below last year. Total U.S. beef exports are up, however, with all of the increases in beef trade going to Japan. On February 1 Japan banned all beef imports. Therefore, 1974 shipments to Japan will probably be below 1973 levels, depending on the length of the ban.

HOGS

The outlook for hog prices during the balance of 1974 is now considerably less favorable than foreseen earlier this year. Here is the background.

Hog prices last summer and fall were by far the highest on record. Supplies of pork in the last half of 1973 were below year-earlier levels, but hog prices were around $5 above what would reasonably have been expected based on past relationships between supplies and prices. The price outlook for 1974 had been based on a continuation of the supply and demand relationships that existed during July-December 1973. It now appears that the hog industry is returning nearer the old supply and demand relationships, and hog prices have settled back to a more normal level based on existing supplies. This has essentially lowered hog prices at least $5 per 100 pounds from the higher level in the second half of 1973.

CHANGES IN HOG PRICES AND PORK PRODUCTION



Hog prices per 100 pounds, 7 markets[1]

Month	Barrows and gilts			Sows		
	1972	1973	1974	1972	1973	1974
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Jan.	24.84	32.51	40.59	20.41	26.32	33.93
Feb.	25.61	36.23	39.73	22.90	31.22	34.21
Mar.	23.56	38.13	34.88	21.43	34.47	31.42
Apr.	22.89	35.56	30.52	20.89	32.33	26.60
May	25.32	36.35		22.12	32.46	
June	26.74	38.55		22.42	33.87	
July	28.57	46.64		23.59	40.56	
Aug.	28.86	56.68		25.22	50.62	
Sept.	29.10	43.79		25.92	40.34	
Oct.	28.09	42.12		25.05	37.66	
Nov.	27.79	40.97		23.04	36.14	
Dec.	30.78	39.79		24.26	32.53	
Av.	26.76	40.27		23.26	35.94	

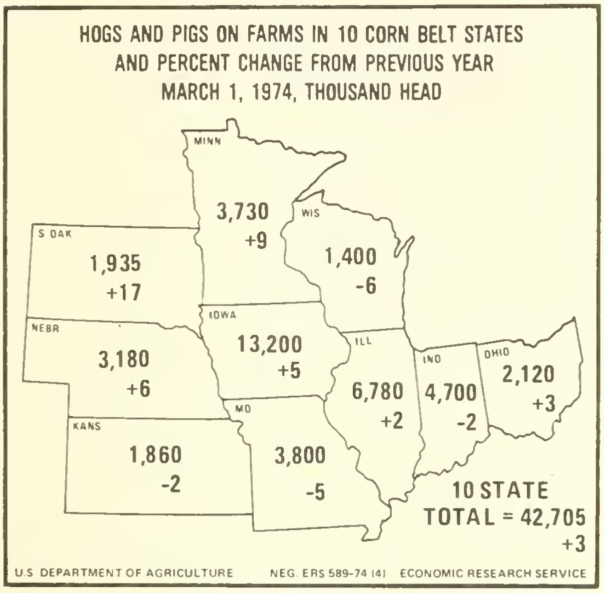
[1] Average for all weights at Midwest markets.

Hogs slaughtered in January-March was unchanged from 1973. Commercial pork production, however, was up 3 percent as commercial slaughter weights averaged 3 percent heavier than in the first quarter last year. Larger production and heavier weights exerted downward pressure on the hog market and prices slipped in March to the lowest levels since early 1973. In April barrows and gilts at 7 markets sold mostly for $30-$32. A sharply lower cattle market in February and March also contributed to declining hog prices.

Slaughter to Decline Seasonally—Prices to Rise

Although April-June hog slaughter is expected to run above the depressed level of a year ago, it will be

down seasonally from winter levels. On March 1, there were moderately more market hogs on farms than a year ago in weight groups that would normally be marketed in the spring. Average slaughter weights will likely continue heavy and boost pork production. A large increase in the heavy weight groups of market hogs on hand March 1 suggests that many hogs normally sold in the winter are being carried into the spring largely because of the depressed hog market.



In the summer, hog slaughter will continue above year-earlier levels but will be seasonally smaller than in the spring. Summer slaughter supplies come mostly from December-February pigs, when farrowings are generally at the lowest level of the year. Hog producers in the 14 major hog producing States met earlier intentions, and farrowed the same number of sows as a year earlier during December-February, but a disappointing rate of 6.9 pigs per litter dropped the pig crop 3 percent.

On March 1, there were still about the same number of market hogs in weight groups that will make up the bulk of summer slaughter supplies. Even so, summer slaughter will likely exceed year-earlier rates when market conditions were thoroughly disrupted by price controls and sharply higher feed costs, causing changes in feeding and marketing programs that slowed the normal movement of hogs to market. This year, with market conditions more nearly normal, and protein feed prices down considerably, more orderly movement to slaughter is expected.

Fall slaughter will come largely from pigs born during March-May, the peak farrowing period. Producers intend to have about the same number of sows farrow in these months this year as last. With normal weather conditions and no unusual disease problems, we can reasonably expect a pig crop at least as large as last year's. However, with an inventory similar to last year's, slaughter this fall will probably run moderately above last October-December. In the early fall last year, marketings lagged their normal rate for the same reasons as in the summer.

In late fall last year, when feed prices were coming down, some farmers began to hold hogs for sale after January 1, 1974, for income tax purposes. Also, some sales were probably lagged because producers hoped for a return to higher prices. The excessive weight of slaughter hogs in the first quarter this year clearly illustrates the impact of prior slow marketings in the fourth quarter.

With seasonally smaller supplies upcoming, and a stronger cattle market this spring, hog prices are expected to rise in the months ahead. Prices probably will advance to a summer peak in July or August, perhaps reaching into the high $30's, but this would be well below last summer's unusually high levels when weekly averages at 7 markets approached $60 per 100 pounds. In the fall with production rising seasonally, hog prices will decline.

Hog-Corn Price Ratio Low But Production Steady

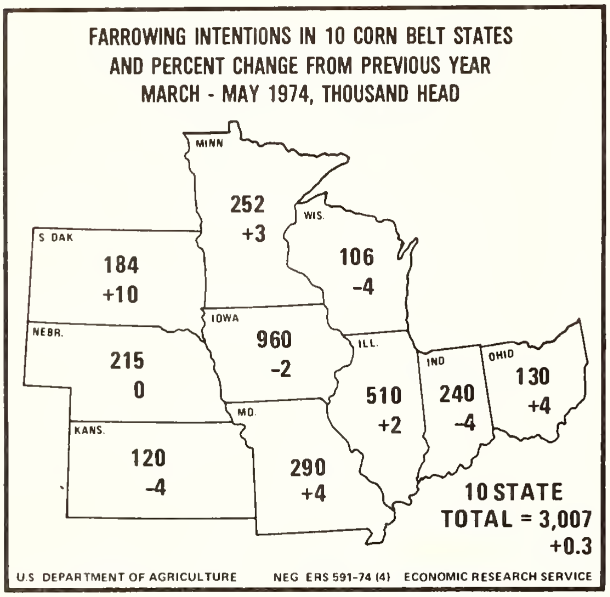
So far this year the hog-corn price ratio (Omaha basis) has averaged about 14 to 1 after running near 20 to 1 during 1972 and 1973. This is the lowest ratio since early 1971 when hogs were selling near $17 and the ratio was near 12 to 1.

Hog-corn price ratio, Omaha basis

Month	1971	1972	1973	1974
January	11.0	19.7	21.5	14.8
February	13.2	20.6	23.3	13.4
March	11.6	19.0	25.4	12.5
April	11.3	18.2	23.4	12.1
May	11.8	19.7	19.5	
June	12.2	21.5	17.0	
July	13.9	22.8	19.9	
August	15.1	23.5	20.8	
September	16.3	22.6	18.4	
October	17.2	21.8	17.8	
November	16.7	20.6	16.9	
December	16.6	20.5	15.7	
Average	13.6	20.6	19.3	

A low hog-corn price ratio has traditionally been viewed as the forerunner of a decline in hog production. The drop in the hog-corn ratio in early 1971 was followed by a 1971 fall pig crop 7 percent below the 1970 fall crop. The spring pig crop in 1972 was down 9 percent. However, at current prices, the margin available to cover other than feed costs is relatively favorable. And there is no current indication apparent that producers are significantly

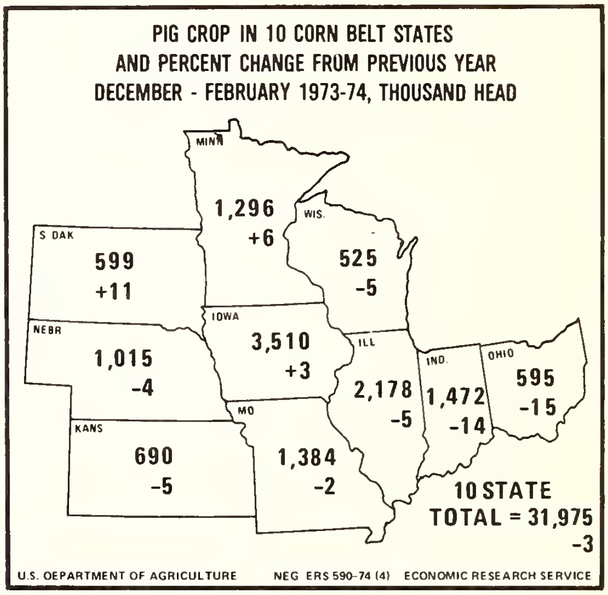
altering production plans. Sow farrowing intentions in the 14 major hog producing States indicate no change planned during March-May and only a 2 percent decline in June-August farrowings. There are probably several reasons for this:



1. Despite the sharp rise in feed prices, 1973 was probably one of the most profitable years hog producers ever had. Receipts were generally high enough to outpace higher costs of production, especially for the farrow-to-finish operators.
2. Hog production in 1973 was at a relatively low level, supplying only 61.6 pounds of pork per person, and down sharply from the 73 pounds produced only 2 years earlier. Bad weather in 1973 hurt the pig crop and helped hold production down. The "inner and outer" hog producers were mostly out, and those who were raising hogs last year were mostly the hog farmers who produce at a relatively steady clip through good times and bad. Furthermore, these producers are increasing investments in production facilities and going to larger production units. As investments increase, flexibility of production tends to decrease. High interest rates could tend to discourage this type of investment.
3. An unusual cost feature for hog producers last year was the extreme rise in protein feed prices. However, while high protein costs resulted in some changes in feed management and lengthened the time on feed, they did not cause any stampede out of hog production—another reflection of the stability of producers. Federally inspected sow slaughter in 1973 was the lowest on record at just over 4 million head.

What About the Future?

Although hog prices have declined significantly from the record levels of 1973, and corn prices are still running fairly high, it seems unlikely that pig crops will decline significantly in 1974 or 1975. Probably most of the steady producers who withstood the considerable disruptions and uncertainties of the hog and feed markets of 1973 will stay in for 1974, even though the profit outlook is considerably less favorable.



Moreover, prospects of a reocrd corn crop this year, with corn prices trending lower and an improvement in the hog market this spring and summer should improve profit prospects and prevent a significant switch in intentions. However, if the hog market remains depressed through the spring due to delayed marketings and heavyweight hogs, and if corn prices remain high, then the 1974 fall pig crop could be down more than present intentions suggest. The hog-corn price ratio so far this year is the lowest since 1971. Sow farrowings in the spring of 1971 were larger than a year earlier in spite of the unfavorable hog-corn price ratio at that time but the fall pig crop in 1971 was down 7 percent.

Record Weights This Winter

During the first quarter this year, barrows and gilts marketed for slaughter at 7 markets averaged 244 pounds. This was 10 pounds heavier than a year earlier and the heaviest for that period since 1949.

While there may have been logical reasons for holding hogs to these weights, this practice has probably been harmful to the hog and pork industry. Excessive weight adds to the total supply of pork, thus negatively affecting hog prices. Also, costs of

feeding per pound of gain accelerate rapidly above 220 pounds and the cost of adding those extra pounds becomes excessive. Perhaps most harmful of all is the damage fat pork does to the image of pork in the eyes of the consuming public.

SHEEP AND LAMBS

Lamb Supplies Down

There were 13.9 million stock sheep and lambs on farms and ranches at the beginning of this year. This was the fewest on record, nearly 1 million head less than a year ago and 41 percent less than 10 years ago. Numbers have been dropping steadily since 1960 when the count totaled nearly 29 million head. All areas of the country have contributed to the decline.

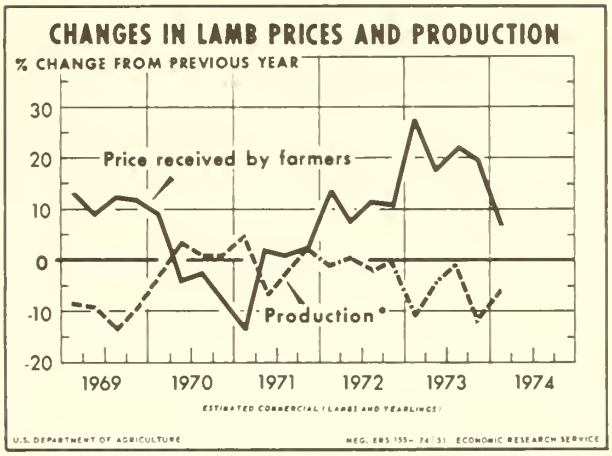
Sheep producers had 7 percent fewer breeding ewes at the beginning of 1974. This points to a smaller lamb crop, and slaughter supplies will continue under 1973 levels. Higher lamb prices, together with a lower beef cattle market this year, will tend to encourage producers to stay in business, particularly the larger operators in the West.Producers in some areas may begin to stabilize sheep numbers and in other areas the rate of liquidation will slow.

On balance, some further liquidation of the sheep and lamb inventory is likely in 1974 but the decline may not be as sharp as last year. But over the next several years, there are no apparent signals that suggest numbers will stabilize. Predators, labor shortages, and other problems continue to plague the industry. Also, the smaller and more thinly distributed the industry becomes, the less competitive is the market for lambs and wool. In many areas, there is practically no market for wool and this product must be sold in lots of a few fleeces to people who buy it largely as an accomodation. However, in areas of more concentrated production, competitive forces are sufficient to reflect true market conditions.

There are many producers who find sheep a profitable enterprise, both on larger and smaller scales. Much depends on the interest and enthusiasm and management techniques of the operator. Often, cooperative efforts in marketing do much to boost the profitability of sheep and wool production.

The key to the rate of change in sheep and lamb numbers this year is the level of sheep and lamb slaughter. Slaughter would have to drop 15-20 percent for the inventory to stabilize. Such a sharp decline seems unlikely.

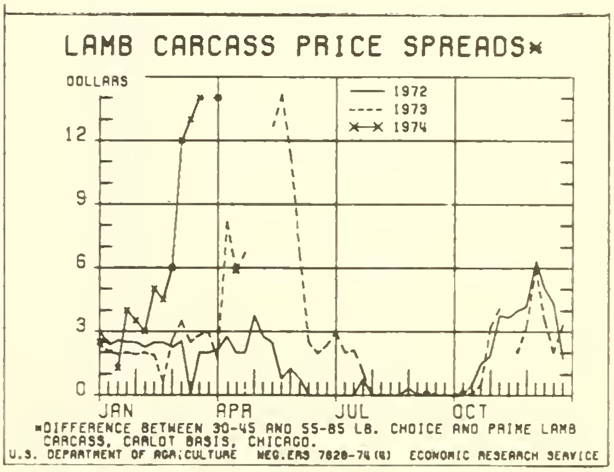
Sheep and lamb slaughter last year was 7 percent smaller than in 1972. In the first quarter this year, slaughter was down 5 percent. Slaughter will average below a year ago for the balance of the year, with the rate of decline not substantially different from the first quarter. Sheep slaughter was 4.9 percent of Federally inspected sheep and lamb slaughter in the first quarter compared with 3.3 percent a year ago.



Higher Prices To Continue

An uneven market dominated the lamb picture in the first quarter but prices averaged near a year earlier. Lamb prices may not shift substantially from recent levels in the remainder of 1974, repeating the relative stability exhibited during much of 1973. During most of the last 3 quarters, prices at San Angelo fluctuated within a range of $3 to $4.

Price discounts on heavy lamb carcasses widened sharply in March. Although discounts have been larger than in order recent years, it is not unusual at this time of year. In late winter, lambs are often held in feedlots too long and weights tend to become excessive. This, together with a somewhat early movement of spring lambs, causes an overlap of supplies of spring and fed lambs resulting in substantial discounts on the heavier fed lambs. This is about what has happened this year. Spreads between 30-45 pound lamb carcasses and 55-65 pound carcasses reached $14 in late March in contrast to around $2 early in the year and $3 last year.



1973 Wool Production Down—Prices Up

Shorn wool production in 1973 totaled 146 million pounds (grease basis) down 8 percent from 1972. Pulled wool output totaled 8 million pounds, about the same as a year earlier. Wool production will decline further in 1974 because of the reduced inventory of sheep on farms.

Wool prices paid to farmers and ranchers averaged nearly 83 cents per pound in 1973, more than double the previous year's 35 cent average and 4 times the depressed level in 1971. Higher prices more than doubled the market value of the 1973 crop despite the smaller supply. Prices this year are expected to hang close to the incentive price of 72 cents.

Mohair production in Texas totaled 9.9 million pounds in 1973. This was down a little from 1972 and substantially below other recent years. Producers received an average price of $1.87 per pound compared with 83 cents in 1972 and 30 cents in 1971. Mohair prices this year are expected to continue well above the incentive level of 80 cents.

Table 3—Production, prices and income from wool, United States, 1961-73

Year	Shorn wool					Pulled wool production
	Number sheep shorn[1]	Weight per fleece	Production	Price per pound[2]	Value	
	1,000 head	*Pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*Cents*	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 pounds*
1961	30,454	8.51	259,161	42.9	111,445	34,500
1962	29,193	8.45	246,636	47.7	117,579	29,900
1963	27,264	8.53	232,446	48.5	112,426	28,800
1964	25,455	8.34	212,333	53.2	112,877	25,100
1965	23,756	8.48	201,463	47.1	94,999	23,300
1966	22,923	8.51	195,053	52.1	101,204	24,100
1967	22,056	8.57	188,984	39.8	75,177	22,400
1968	20,759	8.55	177,396	40.5	71,778	20,500
1969	19,584	8.46	165,749	41.8	69,516	17,100
1970	19,163	8.43	161,587	35.5	57,162	15,200
1971	19,036	8.41	160,015	19.6	31,416	12,000
1972	18,816	8.44	158,918	35.0	55,626	8,000
1973[3]	17,614	8.27	145,725	82.7	120,543	8,200

[1] Includes shearing at commercial feeding yards. [2] 1961 and 1962, the marketing year was April through March. For 1963, the marketing year was April through December. Beginning in 1964 the marketing year is January through December. [3] Preliminary.

Table 4—Mohair: Production and value for 7 leading States, 1961-73[1]

Year	Number goats clipped[2]	Average clip per goat	Production of mohair	Price per pounds[3]	Value
	1,000 head	*Pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*Cents*	*1,000 dollars*
1961	4,021	6.6	26,411	85.6	22,615
1962	4,236	6.4	27,215	71.4	19,430
1963	4,363	6.6	29,007	88.1	25,562
1964	4,568	6.5	29,736	94.3	28,053
1965	4,803	6.7	32,420	65.5	21,251
1966	4,659	6.3	29,576	53.7	15,896
1967	4,113	6.6	27,127	40.9	11,100
1968	3,966	6.6	26,022	45.2	11,754
1969	3,174	6.6	20,810	65.1	13,549
1970	2,725	6.6	17,985	39.1	7,032
1971	2,189	6.8	14,885	30.1	4,480
1972	1,521	6.7	10,190	83.0	8,458
1973[4]	1,450	6.8	9,930	187.0	18,569

[1] States are Missouri, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Oregon and California, starting in 1969, data is for Texas only. [2] In States where goats are clipped twice a year the number clipped is the sum of goats and kids clipped in the spring and kids clipped in the fall. [3] For the years 1961 and 1962, the marketing year was April through March. For 1963, the marketing year was April through December. Beginning in 1964 marketing year is January through December. [4] Preliminary.

Table 5—Meat subject to U.S. import quota restriction: Product weight of imports by months, average 1959-63, 1964-74

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
	Mil. lb.	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*
1959-63 average .	47.3	49.6	57.5	54.3	48.5	58.6	67.1	84.1	76.1	61.6	56.1	61.4	722.2
1964	87.2	44.9	68.9	61.4	51.1	98.1	43.7	79.5	49.6	46.4	55.7	53.4	739.9
1965	28.2	34.5	68.7	32.4	52.3	41.9	58.5	59.9	62.2	64.4	57.2	53.7	613.9
1966	51.4	60.3	49.4	63.3	52.0	100.2	61.4	87.1	91.5	79.7	61.1	66.0	823.4
1967	77.4	58.5	61.9	58.8	51.5	69.6	88.7	92.2	89.8	91.8	82.3	72.4	894.9
1968	80.7	72.6	64.1	78.4	56.1	105.1	86.4	108.6	115.5	102.1	95.8	35.6	1,001.0
1969[1]	41.9	50.4	136.1	90.0	80.5	85.7	107.1	141.8	121.4	108.4	51.4	69.4	1,084.1
1970[1]	124.5	100.7	112.0	88.7	62.1	93.4	110.0	113.0	107.6	89.3	79.3	89.8	1,170.4
1971[1]	83.4	65.1	88.3	86.2	76.8	101.0	94.4	104.9	158.6	80.4	63.2	130.3	1,132.6
1972[1]	86.9	80.8	75.4	105.4	107.9	106.4	106.8	164.6	163.8	145.1	119.0	93.4	1,355.5
1973	106.2	98.4	88.3	97.9	113.1	91.5	105.9	153.7	110.3	150.0	130.0	109.1	1,354.4
1974	118.0	82.3	104.9										

[1] Rejections for calendar year 1969 equaled 13.5 million pounds, 17.4 million pounds for 1970, 21.0 million pounds for 1971, 17.8 million pounds for 1972, and 18.4 million pounds for 1973.

Table 6—U.S. meat imports and exports and percentage comparisons (carcass weight), 1973 and 1974

Months	Beef and veal			Lamb and mutton[1]			Pork			Total meat		
	1973	1974	Change	1973	1974	Change	1973	1974	Change	1973	1974	Change
	Mil. lb.	*Mil. lb.*	*Pct.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Pct.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Pct.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Pct.*
IMPORTS												
January	167	178	+7	4	1	-67	44	43	-3	215	222	+4
February	148	127	-14	7	3	-58	39	47	+20	194	177	-9
March	128	163	+27	8	4	-52	37	52	+41	173	219	+27
April	141			5			48			194		
May	163			7			48			218		
June	139			3			45			187		
July	160			5			38			203		
August	227			4			42			273		
September	169			2			38			209		
October	222			3			48			273		
November	192			3			46			241		
December	164			1			39			204		
Total	2,020			52			512			2,584		
EXPORTS												
January	6.50	9.57	+47	0.20	.35	+77	6.10	4.76	-22	12.80	14.68	+15
February	5.04	8.77	+74	.20	.26	+36	12.14	3.13	-74	17.38	12.16	-30
March	6.83	8.06	+18	.25	.34	+35	33.55	4.12	-88	40.63	12.52	-69
April	6.37			.22			31.15			37.74		
May	7.99			.17			29.72			37.88		
June	8.51			.16			14.54			23.21		
July	6.93			.22			5.68			12.83		
August	6.76			.28			4.10			11.14		
September	5.22			.21			6.03			11.46		
October	9.32			.25			13.96			23.53		
November	11.02			.32			8.68			20.02		
December	10.41			.26			5.43			16.10		
Total	90.90			2.74			171.08			264.72		

[1] Includes goat meat.

Table 7—U.S. imports of livestock and livestock products, 1968-73

Item	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973[1]
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*
Meat (carcass weight equivalent)						
Beef						
Boneless, fresh or frozen	1,224.7	1,348.9	1,484.2	1,447.4	1,714.5	1,769.3
Fresh or frozen	26.8	19.6	24.3	22.1	12.3	18.9
Total fresh or frozen	1,251.5	1,368.5	1,508.5	1,469.5	1,726.8	1,788.2
Canned	165.2	164.4	167.1	127.8	139.8	130.9
Pickled or cured	1.3	1.6	1.8	1.0	0.7	0.5
Other processed	81.7	80.3	114.8	135.4	92.9	69.0
Total	1,499.7	1,614.8	1,792.2	1,733.7	1,960.2	1,988.6
Veal						
Fresh or frozen	18.3	25.7	23.5	21.8	36.1	31.2
Pork						
Fresh or frozen	48.4	42.9	55.5	62.3	64.4	62.4
Hams and shoulders, not cooked	2.4	2.2	1.5	1.0	1.2	1.2
Hams and shoulders, canned	306.5	314.7	339.7	357.4	403.6	414.8
Other	58.8	49.0	51.7	37.9	39.0	34.8
Total	416.1	408.8	448.4	458.6	508.2	513.2
Lamb	22.9	43.9	43.5	38.2	37.3	27.3
Mutton and Goat	124.0	108.4	79.0	64.6	111.2	25.7
Total red meat	2,081.0	2,201.6	2,386.6	2,316.9	2,653.0	2,586.0
Variety Meats (product weight)	3.8	5.6	9.8	6.5	7.9	7.2
Wool (clean basis)						
Dutiable	129.8	93.5	79.8	42.7	24.8	19.2
Duty-free	119.6	95.7	73.3	83.9	71.8	40.6
Total wool	249.4	189.2	153.1	126.6	96.6	59.8
	1,000 pieces	*1,000 pieces*	*1,000 pieces*	*1,000 pieces*	*1,000 pieces*	*1,000 pieces*
Hides and Skins						
Cattle	493	277	386	276	292	694
Calf	509	357	189	67	87	216
Kip	285	334	353	168	174	215
Sheep and lamb	30,825	20,716	18,686	19,283	16,852	12,833
	Number	*Number*	*Number*	*Number*	*Number*	*Number*
Live Animals						
Cattle[2]	1,024,235	1,021,054	1,142,900	969,085	1,169,035	1,019,356
Hogs	21,678	13,430	67,832	77,532	89,032	87,545
Sheep and Lambs	26,579	22,805	11,716	5,454	13,765	9,468

[1] Preliminary. [2] Dutiable; not for breeding.

Table 8—U.S. exports of livestock and livestock products, 1968-73

Item	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973[1]
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*
Meat (carcass weight equivalent)						
Beef						
Fresh or frozen	15.2	16.2	18.3	28.9	41.3	68.0
Canned	2.2	2.0	2.4	2.0	2.0	1.5
Pickled or cured	13.3	10.5	12.3	13.4	10.5	9.1
Other Processed	6.3	6.7	5.7	6.1	5.7	8.1
Total	37.0	35.4	38.7	50.4	59.5	86.7
Veal						
Fresh or Frozen	.5	.6	.5	1.7	2.0	3.4
Total (includes canned)	1.2	1.3	1.1	2.4	2.6	4.2
Pork						
Fresh or frozen	47.9	98.6	35.0	38.9	68.8	116.1
Hams and shoulders not cooked	15.5	23.7	7.1	6.8	12.9	28.9
Hams and shoulders, canned	3.0	2.5	2.8	3.1	3.2	3.1
Other canned	3.8	3.8	3.1	3.7	3.3	4.9
Other	23.1	25.2	20.4	19.9	18.2	18.1
Total	93.3	153.8	68.4	72.4	106.4	171.1
Lamb and mutton	2.8	2.3	1.8	2.1	2.0	2.7
Total red meat	134.3	192.8	110.0	127.3	170.5	264.7
Variety Meats (product weight)	225.2	239.8	239.5	277.5	254.1	281.9
Animal Fats						
Lard	175.3	261.9	365.9	282.3	164.4	113.3
Inedible tallow and greases[2]	2,233.9	1,894.7	2,240.8	2,605.9	2,349.3	2,297.0
Edible tallow and greases[3]	11.2	13.0	20.6	10.0	18.9	22.2
Mohair (clean content)	15.9	12.9	10.9	12.4	19.3	10.6
	1,000 pieces	*1,000 pieces*	*1,000 pieces*	*1,000 pieces*	*1,000 pieces*	*1,000 pieces*
Hides and Skins						
Cattle	[4]12,878	[4]14,778	[4]15,222	[4]15,962	[4]17,578	[4]16,867
Calf	1,816	1,238	1,074	1,968	1,621	1,608
Kip	387	414	241	254	451	279
Sheep and lamb	3,345	3,928	3,822	5,934	5,872	5,792
	Number	*Number*	*Number*	*Number*	*Number*	*Number*
Live Animals						
Cattle	35,745	39,186	88,037	92,956	103,920	272,581
Hogs	13,714	18,620	24,845	17,347	12,316	16,802
Sheep, Lambs, and Goats	117,677	106,237	132,856	213,806	159,428	204,339

[1] Preliminary. [2] Includes inedible animal oils, greases, fats, and tallow. [3] Includes oleo oil, oleo steanin, and oleo stock, and edible tallow. [4] Excludes pieces that are reported in pounds, which were reported in pieces in previous years.

Table 9—U.S. imports, exports, and net imports of beef and veal, pork, lamb and mutton, and total meat in relation to domestic production 1966-73[1]

Year	Production	Imports	Exports	Net imports	Percentage of U.S. production		
					Imports	Exports	Net imports
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
				Beef and veal			
1966	20,636	1,204.2	39.1	1,165.1	5.8	.2	5.6
1967	21,011	1,327.7	42.2	1,285.5	6.3	.2	6.1
1968	21,614	1,518.0	38.2	1,479.8	7.0	.2	6.8
1969	21,831	1,640.5	36.7	1,603.8	7.5	.2	7.3
1970	22,273	1,815.7	39.8	1,775.9	8.2	.2	8.0
1971	22,446	1,755.5	52.8	1,702.7	7.8	.2	7.6
1972	22,878	1,996.3	62.1	1,934.2	8.7	.3	8.4
1973[2]	21,634	2,019.8	90.9	1,928.9	9.3	.4	8.9
				Pork			
1966	11,339	381.3	58.4	322.9	3.4	.5	2.9
1967	12,581	392.5	57.9	334.6	3.1	.5	2.7
1968	13,064	416.1	93.3	322.8	3.2	.7	2.5
1969	12,955	408.8	153.8	255.0	3.2	1.2	2.0
1970	13,438	448.4	68.4	380.0	3.3	.5	2.8
1971	14,792	458.6	72.4	386.2	3.1	.5	2.6
1972	13,639	508.2	106.4	401.8	3.7	.8	2.9
1973[2]	12,751	513.2	171.1	342.1	4.0	1.3	2.7
				Lamb and mutton			
1966	650	136.0	2.3	133.7	20.9	.4	20.6
1967	646	120.9	2.6	118.3	18.7	.4	18.3
1968	602	146.9	2.8	144.1	24.4	.5	23.9
1969	550	152.3	2.3	150.0	27.7	.4	27.3
1970	551	112.5	1.8	120.7	22.2	.3	21.9
1971	555	102.8	2.1	100.7	18.5	.4	18.1
1972	543	148.5	2.0	146.5	27.4	.4	27.0
1973[2]	514	53.0	2.7	50.3	10.3	.5	9.8
				Total meat			
1966	32,625	1,721.5	99.8	1,621.7	5.3	.3	5.0
1967	34.238	1,841.1	102.7	1,738.4	5.4	.3	5.1
1968	35,280	2,081.0	134.3	1,946.7	5.9	.4	5.5
1969	35,336	2,201.6	192.8	2,008.8	6.2	.5	5.7
1970	36,262	2,386.6	110.0	2,276.6	6.6	.3	6.3
1971	37,795	2,316.9	127.3	2,189.6	6.1	.3	5.8
1972	37,060	2,653.0	170.5	2,482.5	7.2	.5	6.7
1973[2]	34,899	2,586.0	264.7	2,321.3	7.4	.7	6.7

[1] Carcass weight equivalent. [2] Preliminary.

Table 10—Meat animals, meat and meat products: Value of United States imports and exports, 1971-73

Commodity	Imports for consumption			Exports		
	1971	1972	1973[1]	1971	1972	1973[1]
	Million dollars	*Million dollars*	*Million dollars*	*Million dollars*	*Million dollars*	*Million dollars*
Live animals:						
Cattle and calves	116.8	162.0	203.3	32.7	43.6	126.0
Hogs	4.2	7.1	11.0	1.8	1.7	3.2
Sheep and lambs	.2	.4	.3	2.6	1.9	2.5
Meat:						
Beef and veal	734.7	861.7	1,171.8	36.0	49.8	97.7
Pork	262.8	302.0	439.8	25.1	49.4	111.1
Lamb, mutton and goat	24.1	30.9	22.0	1.0	.9	1.5
Processed meats[2]	11.0	11.3	13.9	9.8	10.1	15.1
Tallow, greases, and lard	.4	.7	2.5	266.0	207.3	330.2
Variety meats	2.0	2.8	3.4	78.2	88.6	123.9
Casings	27.7	27.3	28.6	11.7	11.3	17.5
Hides and skins	51.0	64.4	82.8	155.1	291.8	375.4
Wool and mohair	63.8	63.4	77.7	7.3	13.0	13.6
Total	1,298.7	1,534.0	2,057.1	627.3	769.4	1,217.7

[1] Preliminary. [2] Includes sausage, canned meats, and canned specialities.

Table 11—U.S. imports of cattle from specified countries, excluding breeding animals and cows for dairy purposes, 1963-73

Year	700 pounds and over				Under 200 pounds			
	Canada	Mexico	Other	Total	Canada	Mexico	Other	Total
	Head	*Head*	*Head*	*Head*	*Head*	*Head*	*Head*	*Head*
1963	51,018	18,123	23	69,164	36,618	27,120	1	63,719
1964	45,881	1,777	0	47,658	50,730	13,162	0	63,892
1965	136,551	14,077	0	150,628	64,070	16,921	0	80,991
1966	90,872	14,505	3	105,380	104,196	22,293	5	126,494
1967	17,958	3,936	26	21,920	87,184	10,553	1	97,738
1968	57,145	1,344	20	58,509	134,344	13,052	0	147,396
1969	42,528	4,099	52	46,679	126,683	32,459	1	159,143
1970	30,367	1,299	158	31,824	123,458	45,475	--	168,933
1971	24,278	1,100	205	25,583	126,221	32,467	1	158,689
1972	27,443	3,738	182	31,363	130,770	42,502	64	173,336
1973[1]	54,011	22,744	505	77,260	128,418	15,187	220	143,825
	200 to 699 pounds				**Total**			
	Canada	Mexico	Other	Total	Canada	Mexico	Other	Total
1963	148,486	540,099	353	688,938	236,122	585,342	377	821,841
1964	86,713	315,962	700	403,375	183,324	330,901	700	514,925
1965	359,486	504,285	0	863,771	560,107	535,283	0	1,095,390
1966	280,522	547,287	319	828,128	475,590	584,085	327	1,060,002
1967	121,900	485,929	13	607,842	227,042	500,418	40	727,500
1968	114,628	687,912	7	802,547	306,117	702,308	27	1,008,452
1969	18,522	773,829	5	792,356	187,733	810,387	58	998,178
1970	17,122	889,809	61	906,992	170,947	936,583	219	1,107,749
1971	30,222	718,642	9	748,873	180,721	752,209	215	933,145
1972	69,637	869,527	4	939,168	227,850	915,767	250	1,143,867
1973[1]	147,521	631,074	1,395	779,990	329,950	669,005	2,120	1,001,075

[1] Preliminary.

Table 12—Meat exports: United States exports and shipments by countries, 1967 to date

Product and year	Exports, by destination, product weight											Shipments to territories[1]	Total exports and shipments	
	Canada	Mexico	France	Bahamas	West Germany	Jamaica	Japan	Netherlands	Venezuela	All other	Total		Product weight	Carcass weight equivalent
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*
Beef and veal:														
1967	17.6	.2	.3	5.8	.1	1.2	.4	.2	([2])	5.5	31.3	36.4	67.6	94
1968	11.9	.4	.4	7.1	.1	1.1	.4	.1	([2])	5.5	27.0	37.5	64.5	94
1969	10.2	.4	.1	7.7	([2])	1.0	.6	.1	.1	5.5	25.7	33.6	59.3	87
1970	11.6	.4	.3	7.5	([2])	1.6	1.1	.2	([2])	6.6	29.3	45.9	75.2	104
1971	24.5	.2	.3	7.0	.2	1.8	1.7	.2	---	6.1	42.0	50.3	92.3	121
1972	34.3	.2	.3	6.6	.3	1.9	1.6	.2	([2])	6.8	52.2	38.8	91.0	124
1973[4]	34.6	.3	.6	7.0	.2	1.4	24.8	.2	---	10.0	79.1	45.4	124.5	152
Lamb and mutton:														
1967	.2	.1	([2])	.5	---	([2])	---	---	([2])	1.0	1.8	1.7	3.5	6
1968	.3	([2])	---	.7	---	([2])	([2])	---	([2])	.9	1.9	1.9	3.8	7
1969	.1	([2])	([2])	.8	---	([2])	([2])	---	([2])	.5	1.4	1.6	3.0	6
1970	([2])	.1	---	.5	---	([2])	---	---	.1	.4	1.1	3.3	4.4	7
1971	.1	.1	---	.6	([2])	([2])	---	---	([2])	.5	1.3	3.5	4.8	8
1972	([2])	.1	---	.5	---	([2])	---	---	.1	.6	1.3	2.0	3.3	7
1973[4]	.2	.1	([2])	.9	---	([2])	([2])	([2])	.1	.4	1.7	1.0	2.7	6
Pork:														
1967	27.3	1.9	.3	3.5	.2	2.9	.6	.2	2.9	10.8	50.6	74.4	125.0	146
1968	36.4	2.9	.2	4.0	.1	3.2	25.1	.2	1.6	11.4	85.1	78.7	163.8	187
1969	64.4	3.9	.2	4.1	.4	2.2	57.4	.1	.8	11.6	145.1	63.4	208.5	236
1970	23.5	2.7	.1	3.5	.1	1.3	16.2	([2])	1.1	12.7	61.2	85.5	146.7	177
1971	13.6	2.1	.2	3.5	.1	2.2	25.7	.4	.9	16.6	65.3	93.4	158.7	183
1972	31.6	1.2	.1	3.6	.1	1.5	46.3	.2	.7	14.0	99.3	94.4	193.7	223
1973[4]	43.4	1.5	.4	4.5	([2])	1.0	96.8	.2	.8	12.1	160.7	83.1	243.8	268
Total[3]														
1967	47.8	2.7	.8	11.6	.6	5.0	1.4	.5	3.0	26.6	100.0	142.6	242.6	246
1968	50.9	4.2	.8	13.7	.5	5.0	26.1	.4	1.7	27.8	131.1	153.6	284.7	288
1969	78.1	6.2	.7	14.5	.6	3.7	58.6	.3	1.0	26.3	190.0	138.3	328.3	329
1970	38.9	3.8	.8	12.9	.3	3.7	17.8	.3	1.2	28.0	107.7	180.3	288.1	288
1971	42.6	2.8	1.7	12.5	.7	4.2	28.3	.6	.9	30.7	125.0	190.8	315.8	312
1972	70.7	2.1	1.4	12.2	.5	3.8	48.7	.6	.8	28.0	168.8	187.9	356.7	354
1973[4]	84.3	2.5	2.6	14.0	.3	3.0	124.3	.5	1.0	30.5	263.0	168.9	431.9	426

[1] Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands, Guam and Wake. Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands only since 1970. [2] Less than 50,000 pounds. [3] Including sausage, bologna and frankfurters canned and not canned, sausage ingredients, meat and meat products n.e.c. [4] Preliminary.

Source: Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 13—Meat imports: United States by countries, 1967 to date

Product and year	Canada	Mexico	Ar-gentina	Brazil	Den-mark	West Ger-many	Poland	Nether-lands	Ireland	Aus-tralia	New Zea-land	All other	Total imports: Product weight	Total imports: Carcass weight equiva-lent
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*
Beef and veal:														
1967	26.7	47.8	108.1	9.6	.1	(1)	(1)	(1)	80.6	425.6	170.9	109.6	979.0	1,328
1968	46.7	65.6	132.6	31.6	.1	(1)	.1	(1)	56.7	444.2	203.1	147.3	1,128.0	1,518
1969	44.0	66.5	130.0	34.3	.2	(1)	(1)	(1)	66.0	491.1	223.7	160.8	1,216.6	1,640
1970	80.6	78.6	141.1	28.8	.4	(1)	(1)	(1)	69.0	535.8	241.6	174.2	1,350.1	1,816
1971	80.1	79.1	88.4	63.0	2.2	(1)	(1)	(1)	64.0	505.4	241.8	186.7	1,310.7	1,756
1972	59.6	81.9	94.1	48.0	2.4	.2	---	(1)	31.1	674.7	266.4	222.5	1,480.9	1,996
1973[3]	56.3	67.0	81.0	45.9	2.2	1.2	---	(1)	22.0	697.3	290.9	231.0	1,494.8	2,020
Lamb and mutton:														
1967	.2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	56.8	9.4	.2	66.6	121
1968	(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	71.2	13.5	.2	84.9	147
1969	.7	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	73.9	23.4	.1	98.1	153
1970	.6	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	60.1	22.2	.1	83.0	122
1971	(1)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	58.0	12.4	.1	70.5	103
1972	.3	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	72.4	20.1	.1	92.9	148
1973[3]	.1	.2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	17.8	21.9	.2	40.2	53
Pork:														
1967	54.8	(1)	.3	---	102.3	1.4	57.2	74.6	.2	.1	(1)	16.0	306.9	392
1968	55.5	(1)	(1)	.1	111.9	1.4	55.1	82.2	.3	(1)	(1)	17.6	324.1	416
1969	49.9	(1)	.1	(1)	108.6	1.8	53.6	85.6	.2	.2	(1)	15.5	315.5	409
1970	63.2	(1)	(1)	---	120.6	1.4	56.0	86.7	.1	.3	(1)	19.3	347.6	449
1971	69.4	---	(1)	---	128.1	1.7	54.9	82.5	.1	.3	---	19.5	356.5	458
1972	67.5	4.0	(1)	---	151.8	1.2	66.6	75.3	.2	.4	.1	27.6	394.7	508
1973[3]	68.2	---	---	---	138.5	1.2	61.3	93.7	.2	2.2	.1	32.5	397.9	513
Total:[2]														
1967	81.7	47.8	108.8	9.6	119.0	2.1	57.8	74.9	80.8	483.1	180.3	127.3	1,373.2	1,841
1968	102.3	65.6	132.8	31.7	127.6	2.2	55.9	82.4	57.0	515.8	216.7	166.6	1,556.6	2,081
1969	94.6	66.5	130.3	34.3	126.8	2.7	54.1	85.8	66.2	566.5	247.2	178.0	1,653.0	2,202
1970	144.6	78.6	141.1	28.8	144.3	2.3	56.2	88.1	69.1	597.3	264.0	195.3	1,809.7	2,387
1971	149.5	79.1	88.5	63.0	148.8	2.4	55.0	83.4	64.1	564.3	254.2	207.7	1,760.0	2,317
1972	127.5	85.9	94.2	48.0	172.1	2.2	66.7	75.7	31.3	747.9	286.7	251.7	1,989.9	2,653
1973[3]	125.0	67.2	81.0	45.9	155.0	2.9	61.7	93.8	22.2	717.8	312.8	265.8	1,951.1	2,586

[1] Less than 50,000 pounds. [2] Includes quantities of other canned, prepared or preserved meat n.e.s. [3] Preliminary.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 14—Corn Belt Cattle Feeding

Selected expenses at current rates[1]

Selected expenses	1972				1973				1974
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I
	Dollars per head	*Dollars per head*	*Dollars per head*	*Dollars per head*	*Dollars per head*	*Dollars per head*	*Dollars per head*	*Dollars per head*	*Dollars per head*
600 lb. feeder steer	230.82	241.80	254.76	266.16	304.62	322.44	347.88	301.20	292.38
Transportation to feedlot (400 miles)	3.84	4.08	4.08	4.32	4.32	4.56	4.56	4.80	4.80
Corn (45 bu.)	48.15	50.40	52.20	55.80	60.75	76.05	104.85	100.80	121.05
Silage (1.7 tons)	15.56	15.71	15.79	16.90	18.70	21.39	26.59	26.23	32.33
30% protein supplement (270 lb.)	14.90	15.26	15.74	17.50	21.11	24.25	24.65	23.63	24.08
Hay (400 lb.)	4.60	4.42	4.23	4.53	5.15	5.00	4.83	5.13	6.75
Labor (4 hours)	7.80	7.80	8.04	8.04	8.12	8.44	8.72	8.84	9.04
Management[2]	3.90	3.90	4.02	4.02	4.06	4.22	4.36	4.42	4.52
Vet medicine[3]	2.00	2.03	2.05	2.10	2.20	2.32	2.41	2.46	2.58
Interest on purchase (6 mo.)	8.94	9.37	9.87	10.31	12.95	13.70	14.78	13.86	13.89
Power, equip, fuel, shelter, depreciation[3]	9.25	9.40	9.51	9.73	10.19	10.72	11.15	11.37	11.92
Death loss (1% of purchase)	2.31	2.42	2.55	2.66	3.05	3.22	3.48	3.01	2.92
Transportation & marketing expenses (100 miles)	4.78	4.89	4.94	5.04	5.09	5.20	5.25	5.35	5.40
Misc. and indirect costs[3]	4.00	4.07	4.12	4.21	4.41	4.64	4.83	4.92	5.16
Total	360.85	375.55	391.90	411.32	464.72	506.15	568.34	516.02	536.82
Selling price/cwt. required to cover feed and feeder costs (1050 lbs.)	29.91	31.20	32.64	34.37	39.08	42.77	48.46	43.52	45.39
Selling price/cwt. required to cover all costs (1050 lbs.)	34.37	35.77	37.32	39.17	44.26	48.20	54.13	49.14	51.13
Feed cost per 100 lb. gain	18.49	19.06	19.55	21.05	23.49	28.15	35.76	34.62	40.94
Prices									
Feeder steer choice (600-700) Kansas City /cwt.)	38.47	40.30	42.46	44.36	50.77	53.74	57.98	50.20	48.73
Corn/(bu.)[4]	1.07	1.12	1.16	1.24	1.35	1.69	2.33	2.24	2.69
Hay /ton[4]	23.00	22.08	21.17	22.67	25.75	25.00	24.17	25.67	33.75
Corn silage /ton[5]	9.15	9.24	9.29	9.94	11.00	12.58	15.64	15.43	19.02
30%, Protein supplement/cwt.[6]	5.52	5.65	5.83	6.48	7.82	8.98	9.13	8.75	8.92
Farm Labor /hour[6]	1.95	1.95	2.01	2.01	2.03	2.11	2.18	2.21	2.26
Interest annual rate	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.75	8.50	8.50	8.50	9.20	9.50
Transportation rate (/cwt 100 miles)[7]	.16	.17	.17	.18	.18	.19	.19	.20	.20
Marketing expenses[8]	3.10	3.10	3.15	3.15	3.20	3.20	3.25	3.25	3.30
Index of prices paid by farmers (1910-14=100)	422	429	434	444	465	489	509	519	544

[1] Represents only what expenses would be if all selected items were paid for during the period indicated. The feed ration and expense items do not necessarily coincide with experience of individual feeders. For individual use, adjust expenses and prices for management, production level and locality of operation. [2] Assumes one hour at twice the labor rate. [3] Adjusted quarterly by the index of prices paid by farmers for commodities, services, interest, taxes and wage rates. [4] Average price received by farmers in Iowa and Illinois. [5] Corn silage price derived from an equivalent price of 5 bushels corn and 330 lb. hay. [6] Average price paid by farmers in Iowa and Illinois. [7] Converted from cents/mile for a 44,000 pound haul. [8] Yardage plus commission fees at a midwest terminal market.

Table 15—Corn Belt Hog Feeding[1]

Selected costs at current rates[2]

Selected expenses	1972 I	1972 II	1972 III	1972 IV	1973 I	1973 II	1973 III	1973 IV	1974 I
	Dollars per head	*Dollars per head*	*Dollars per head*	*Dollars per head*	*Dollars per head*	*Dollars per head*	*Dollars per head*	*Dollars per head*	*Dollars per head*
40 lb. feeder pig	25.96	26.27	26.78	26.90	32.94	33.74	41.37	35.89	33.48
Corn (11 bu.)	11.77	12.32	12.76	13.64	14.85	18.59	25.63	24.64	29.59
Protein supplement (130 lb.)	9.19	9.66	10.08	11.34	15.51	19.53	19.60	15.86	15.56
Labor & management (1.3 hrs.)	5.07	5.07	5.23	5.23	5.28	5.49	5.67	5.75	5.88
Vet medicine [3]	1.00	1.02	1.03	1.05	1.10	1.16	1.21	1.23	1.29
Interest on purchase (6 mo.)	1.01	1.02	1.04	1.04	1.40	1.43	1.76	1.65	1.59
Power, equip, fuel, shelter, depreciation[3]	2.43	2.47	2.50	2.56	2.68	2.82	2.94	3.00	3.13
Death loss (4% of purchase)	1.04	1.05	1.07	1.08	1.32	1.35	1.65	1.44	1.34
Transportation & marketing expenses (100 miles)	1.38	1.40	1.42	1.45	1.47	1.49	1.50	1.52	1.54
Misc. & indirect costs[3]	.25	.25	.25	.26	.27	.28	.29	.30	.32
Total	59.10	60.53	62.16	64.55	76.82	85.88	101.62	91.28	93.72
Selling price/cwt. required to cover feed and feeder costs (220 lbs.)	21.33	21.93	22.55	23.58	28.77	32.66	39.36	34.72	35.74
Selling price/cwt. required to cover all costs (220 lbs.)	26.86	27.51	28.25	29.34	34.92	39.04	46.19	41.49	42.60
Feed cost per 100 lb. gain	11.64	12.21	12.67	13.88	16.87	21.18	25.13	22.50	25.08
Prices									
40 lb. feeder pig (So. Missouri)	25.96	26.27	26.78	26.90	32.94	33.74	41.37	35.89	33.48
Corn[4]	1.07	1.12	1.16	1.24	1.35	1.69	2.33	2.24	2.69
29% protein supplement[5]	7.07	7.43	7.75	8.72	11.93	15.02	15.08	12.20	11.97
Labor and management[6]	3.90	3.90	4.02	4.02	4.06	4.22	4.36	4.42	4.52
Interest rate (annual)	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.75	8.50	8.50	8.50	9.20	9.50
Transportation rate (/cwt. 100 miles)[7]	.16	.17	.17	.18	.18	.19	.19	.20	.20
Marketing expenses[8]	1.03	1.03	1.05	1.05	1.07	1.07	1.08	1.08	1.10
Index of prices paid by farmers (1910-14=100)	422	429	434	444	465	489	509	519	544

1 Although a majority of hog feeding operations in the Corn Belt are from farrow to finish, relative fattening expenses will be similar. 2 Represents only what expenses would be if all selected items were paid for during the period indicated. The feed rations and expense items do not necessarily coincide with the experience of individual feeders. For individual use, adjust expenses and prices for management, production level, and locality of operation. 3 Adjusted quarterly by the index of prices paid by farmers for commodities, services, interest, taxes and wage rates. 4 Average price received by farmers in Iowa and Illinois. 5 Average prices paid by farmers in Iowa and Illinois. 6 Assumes an owner-operator receiving twice the farm labor rate. 7 Converted to cents/cwt. from cents/mile for a 44,000 pound haul. 8 Yardage plus commission fees at a midwest terminal market.

Supply and distribution of commercially produced meat, by month, carcass weight

Meat and period	Supply			Distribution				
	Production[1]	Beginning stocks	Imports	Exports and shipments	Ending stocks	Military	Civilian consumption	
							Total	Per person[2]
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Pounds*
Beef:								
1973								
March	1,772	368	126	12	357	23	1,874	9.1
April	1,480	357	139	11	360	18	1,587	7.7
May	1,823	360	161	13	338	19	1,974	9.5
June	1,738	338	138	13	322	20	1,859	9.0
July	1,694	322	159	11	299	14	1,851	8.9
August	1,659	299	226	12	256	6	1,910	9.2
September	1,639	256	167	9	245	24	1,784	8.6
October	1,994	245	218	13	318	24	2,102	10.1
November	1,872	318	188	15	392	20	1,951	9.4
December	1,775	392	160	17	448	14	1,848	8.9
1974								
January	1,972	448	174	14	464	10	2,106	10.1
February	1,601	464	126	13	447	12	1,719	8.2
Veal:								
1973								
March	31	15	2	[3]	12	1	35	0.2
April	24	12	2	1	13	1	23	.1
May	27	13	2	1	12	[3]	29	.2
June	25	12	1	[3]	11	1	26	.1
July	24	11	1	[3]	10	[3]	26	.1
August	25	10	1	1	8	[3]	27	.1
September	24	8	2	[3]	8	[3]	26	.1
October	28	8	4	1	9	[3]	30	.2
November	28	9	4	1	10	[3]	30	.1
December	24	10	4	2	12	1	23	.1
1974								
January	29	12	4	1	12	[3]	32	.2
February	25	12	1	1	10	[3]	27	.1
Lamb & Mutton:								
1973								
March	40	11	8	[3]	11	1	47	0.2
April	39	11	5	1	13	[3]	41	.2
May	48	13	7	[3]	15	[3]	53	.2
June	39	15	3	[3]	16	3	38	.2
July	43	16	5	[3]	14	[3]	50	.2
August	44	14	4	[3]	13	[3]	49	.2
September	41	13	2	1	13	[3]	42	.2
October	49	13	3	1	16	[3]	48	.2
November	40	16	3	[3]	15	[3]	44	.2
December	34	15	1	1	15	[3]	34	.1
1974								
January	41	15	1	1	12	[3]	44	.2
February	34	12	3	[3]	12	[3]	37	.2
Pork:								
1973								
March	1,133	190	37	42	242	7	1,069	5.2
April	1,033	242	48	42	248	8	1,025	5.0
May	1,150	248	48	39	259	8	1,140	5.5
June	995	259	45	23	253	8	1,015	4.9
July	890	253	38	12	202	6	961	4.7
August	973	202	42	11	180	15	1,011	4.9
September	929	180	38	13	198	10	926	4.4
October	1,152	198	48	21	224	9	1,144	5.5
November	1,136	224	46	16	277	6	1,107	5.3
December	1,059	277	39	14	286	6	1,069	5.1
1974								
January	1,212	286	43	14	303	6	1,218	5.8
February	999	303	47	9	306	6	1,028	4.9
Total Meat:								
March	2,976	584	173	54	622	32	3,025	14.7
April	2,576	622	194	55	634	27	2,676	13.0
May	3,048	634	218	53	624	27	3,196	15.4
June	2,797	624	187	36	602	32	2,938	14.2
July	2,651	602	203	23	525	20	2,888	13.9
August	2,701	525	273	24	457	21	2,997	14.4
September	2,633	457	209	23	464	34	2,778	13.3
October	3,223	464	273	36	567	33	3,324	16.0
November	3,076	567	241	32	694	27	3,131	15.0
December	2,892	694	204	34	761	21	2,980	14.3
1974								
January	3,254	761	222	30	791	16	3,400	16.3
February	2,659	791	177	23	775	18	2,811	13.4

[1] Excludes production from farm slaughter. [2] Derived from estimates by months of population eating out of civilian food supplies. [3] Less than 500,000 pounds.

Selected price statistics for meat animals and meat

Item	1973 Jan.	1973 Feb.	1974 Jan.	1974 Feb.	1974 Mar.
	Dollars per 100 pounds				
CATTLE AND CALVES					
Beef steers, slaughter, Omaha					
Prime	41.28	44.57	48.41	47.42	42.43
Choice	40.61	43.35	47.68	46.12	42.36
Good	38.96	41.46	46.19	44.78	41.06
Standard	35.26	37.31	42.67	41.58	37.77
Utility	34.20	36.40	41.05	39.72	36.94
All grades	40.25	42.76	47.28	45.72	41.98
Choice 900-1100 pounds, California	42.15	43.75	50.60	48.75	44.19
Choice 900-1100 pounds, Colorado	41.24	43.71	49.46	47.42	41.83
Cows, Omaha					
Commercial	26.49	31.22	31.40	32.44	31.61
Utility	26.67	31.43	31.45	32.65	31.76
Cutter	24.66	29.60	29.71	30.77	30.04
Canner	22.87	27.60	28.15	28.60	28.04
Vealers, Choice, S. St. Paul	58.74	64.12	61.29	64.92	63.30
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City[1]	44.25	48.06	48.73	45.12	43.65
Price received by farmers					
Beef cattle	37.10	40.50	44.40	43.50	40.70
Cows	26.30	29.50	32.00	33.10	32.30
Steers and heifers	40.40	43.40	47.60	46.50	42.90
Calves	49.10	52.50	53.90	53.20	49.40
Beef steer-corn price ratio[2]	26.8	27.6	17.4	15.5	15.2
HOGS					
Barrows and gilts, U.S. No. 1 and 2, Omaha					
180-200 pounds	---	---	---	---	---
200-220 pounds	33.81	37.47	42.11	41.02	35.73
220-240 pounds	33.55	37.46	42.06	41.01	35.73
Barrows and gilts, 7 markets[3]	32.54	36.23	40.59	39.73	34.88
Sows, 7 markets[3]	26.32	31.22	33.93	34.21	31.42
Price received by farmers	31.00	34.20	40.10	39.40	35.00
Hog-corn price ratio[4]					
Omaha, barrows and gilts	21.5	23.3	14.8	13.4	12.5
Price received by farmers, all hogs	22.3	25.3	15.5	14.3	13.1
SHEEP AND LAMBS					
Sheep					
Slaughter ewes, Good, San Angelo	12.70	17.69	20.80	22.38	21.00
Price received by farmers	9.33	10.40	14.20	15.20	14.50
Lamb					
Slaughter, Choice, San Angelo	35.75	36.50	39.50	40.38	40.38
Feeder, Choice, San Angelo	34.30	39.06	39.55	40.75	34.19
Price received by farmers	32.60	34.90	39.20	39.50	35.80
ALL MEAT ANIMALS					
Index number price received by farmers (1967=100)	167	182	202	199	183
	Dollars per 100 pounds				
MEAT					
Wholesale, Chicago, Carlot					
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 600-700 pounds	62.85	66.85	75.56	75.78	67.62
Heifer beef, Choice, 500-600 pounds	61.50	65.90	73.99	73.78	66.20
Cow beef, Canner and Cutter	54.78	66.12	67.30	67.65	63.45
Lamb carcass, Choice and Prime, 45-55 pounds	70.70	76.54	83 15	85.78	76.75
Fresh pork loins, 8-14 pounds	72.41	75.65	80.01	79.67	70.00
	Cents per pound				
Retail, United States average					
Beef, Choice grade	122.1	130.3	143.0	150.0	142.2
Pork, retail cuts and sausage	94.1	97.1	116.7	117.2	111.8
Lamb, Choice grade	125.6	130.2	132.6	136.9	139.3
Index number all meats (BLS)					
Wholesale (1967=100)	143.1	152.4	177.8	175.1	160.1
Retail (1967=100)	137.7	145.2	169.9	176.3	173.1
Beef and veal	142.9	152.3	168.6	181.3	178.4
Pork	135.0	142.2	173.5	174.0	169.0

[1] Average all weights and grades. [2] Bushels of No. 2 Yellow Corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of slaughter steers sold out of first hands, Omaha, all grades. [3] St. Louis N.S.Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, S. St. Paul, and Indianapolis. [4] Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meat

Item	Unit	1973		1974		
		Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
Meat animal marketings						
Index number (1967-100)		116	103	116	90	111
7-State Cattle on Feed Report						
Number on feed	1,000 head	9,884	9,993	9,353	9,632	9,248
Placed on feed	1,000 head	1,830	1,183	1,822	956	1,224
Marketings	1,000 head	1,721	1,541	1,543	1,340	1,669
Slaughter under Federal inspection						
Number slaughtered						
Cattle	1,000 head	2,810	2,424	2,793	2,303	2,621
Steers	1,000 head	1,526	1,362	1,447	1,259	1,537
Heifers	1,000 head	722	573	684	516	595
Cows	1,000 head	515	445	608	481	442
Bulls and stags	1,000 head	47	44	54	47	47
Calves	1,000 head	209	169	181	155	180
Sheep and lambs	1,000 head	835	700	749	612	772
Hogs	1,000 head	6,641	5,712	6,804	5,584	6,568
Percentage sows	Percent	6	5	6	6	5
Average live weight per head						
Cattle	Pounds	1,059	1,058	1,074	1,074	1,077
Calves	Pounds	209	215	199	196	186
Sheep and lambs	Pounds	108	109	108	111	111
Hogs	Pounds	239	237	246	244	245
Average production						
Beef, per head	Pounds	635	635	648	638	655
Veal, per head	Pounds	120	120	115	114	112
Lamb and mutton, per head ...	Pounds	54	54	54	55	56
Pork, per head	Pounds	162	165	168	169	168
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight	Pounds	68	68	68	69	69
Lard, per head	Pounds	17	16	16	15	17
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight	Pounds	7	7	6	6	7
Total production						
Beef	Mil. lb.	1,777	1,534	1,807	1,465	1,711
Veal	Mil. lb.	25	20	21	18	20
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lb.	45	38	40	34	43
Pork	Mil. lb.	1,077	923	1,143	974	1,101
Lard	Mil. lb.	111	92	108	85	110
Commercial slaughter[1]						
Numbered slaughtered						
Cattle	1,000 head	3,105	2,673	3,088	2,543	2,872
Calves	1,000 head	254	206	214	186	212
Sheep and lambs	1,000 head	858	721	770	629	791
Hogs	1,000 head	7,101	6,088	7,234	5,961	6,943
Total production						
Beef	Mil. lb.	1,945	1,674	1,972	1,601	1,856
Veal	Mil. lb.	36	29	29	25	29
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lb.	46	39	41	34	44
Pork	Mil. lb.	1,149	981	1,212	999	1,159
Lard	Mil. lb.	116	96	113	89	114
Cold storage stocks first of month						
Beef	Mil. lb.	367	383	448	464	448
Veal	Mil. lb.	13	16	12	12	12
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lb.	16	14	15	12	12
Pork	Mil. lb.	214	203	286	303	307
Total meat and meat products[2]	Mil. lb.	670	682	830	864	864

[1] Federally inspected and other commercial. [2] Includes stocks of canned meats in cooler in addition to the meats listed.

LIST OF TABLES

STANDARD SUMMARY TABLES

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

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